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North Carolina

**North Carolina Protecting our Environment
and Citizens through an Educational
and Public Safety Program**

AmeriCorps Application for Fiscal Year 1996

submitted by:

**North Carolina Resource Conservation
and Development Association**

**Developed with assistance from the Natural
Resources Conservation Service, USDA**

January 20, 1995

AmeriCorps Application for FY-96 Project Summary

The North Carolina Resource Conservation and Development Association realizes the statewide need to provide environmental activities/education and fire protection for the citizens of North Carolina. This statewide nonprofit organization has plans to develop a series of environmental programs on a regional basis and a fire safety program on a statewide basis to achieve these two goals. The plan includes mini-teams working on a regional basis, as well as, a statewide effort in which these same mini-teams will be pulled together to achieve a statewide objective.

Objectives in the plan include the following priority needs across the state:

1. Trout stream renovation in the mountains
2. Pilot testing ecosystems management and learning centers in ten state parks
3. Statewide community development project--Dry Hydrant installation for fire protection

Needs to be Met:

Statewide, we are experiencing industrial and residential growth. This growth is perceived by some as positive while others view it as detrimental to our statewide ecosystems. Unfortunately, most citizens lack the knowledge to develop opinions supported by scientific facts. When problems or opportunities are cited in our state; such as, timber cutting in the national forest; or the construction of a superhighway; or the siting of a nuclear waste storage facility; most citizens react out of fear, unable to understand that there are balances between environment and progress. The first two objectives of this plan are designed to achieve an informed citizenry.

North Carolina is a state composed of 85% rural counties. In 1994, more than 100 citizens lost their lives to fire, while property losses exceeded 50 million dollars. One of the leading causes of this loss of life and property is the lack of an adequate supply of water to fight fires, since less than 20% of rural North Carolina counties have county-wide water systems. The NC Resource Conservation and Development Association plans to implement a statewide dry hydrant program to supply water resources for this public safety program. AmeriCorp participants are needed to achieve this goal.

Number of Participants: Thirty full-time equivalent participants are needed for the three objectives identified.

Administering Organization: NC Resource Conservation and Development Association.

Primary Program Partners: Natural Resources Conservation Service

Objective 1:	Southwestern NC RC&D Mountain Valleys RC&D Trout Unlimited	Blue Ridge RC&D NC Department of Transportation NC Wildlife Resources Commission
Objective 2:	Environmental Impact RC&D Weymouth Woods State Park Albemarle RC&D Mid East RC&D Carolina Power and Light Co. Wal Mart Foundation New Hanover County Stokes County	US Forest Service Pasquotank County Town of Engelhard Goose Creek State Park Hope Plantation Cape Fear RC&D Pilot View RC&D Hanging Rock State Park
Objective 3:	Albemarle RC&D Blue Ridge RC&D Cape Fear RC&D Environmental Impact RC&D Pilot View RC&D Mid East RC&D Fire Departments	Mountain Valleys RC&D North Central Piedmont RC&D Southwestern NC RC&D North Carolina Fire Fighters Asso. North Carolina Farm Bureau Fed. North Carolina Division of Energy Natural Resources Conservation Service

MISSION AND OBJECTIVES:

Mission: Building support and leaders in our communities in the natural resource and human resource areas in order to address public environmental and economic concerns.

Objectives in the Issue Area

1. To restore and enhance public waters in the mountains of the state of North Carolina.
2. Introduce ecosystem management and educational facilities including: Weymouth Woods Natural Preserve, Hanging Rock State Park, Pasquotank Recreation Area, Englehard Creek Boardwalk, Goose Creek State Park, Hope Heritage Forest, and four new parks in New Hanover County.
3. Implement a statewide rural public safety program supported by dry fire hydrants.

NARRATIVE:

OBJECTIVE #1 -- To restore and enhance public waters in the mountains of the state of North Carolina.

(a.) **Needs to be met and appropriateness for National Service.** Assist with the development and improvement of tourism and recreation in the area. Provide assistance in protection of the resource base. Assist with programs for improvement in fishing and wildlife habitat.

Needs.

There is a need for renovation of these streams in order for the fish habitat to be restored. This will increase the carrying capacity of the stream and make more recreational fishing available to the general public. These streams not only serve the citizens of North Carolina but also the citizens of the adjoining states and beyond.

Process.

The streams that need improvement will be identified by members of the Trout Unlimited Chapters in Western North Carolina in consultation with local Wildlife and Fishing Clubs, local citizen groups as well as the local Soil and Water Conservation Districts and the Southwestern NC, Blue Ridge, and Mountain Valley RC&D Councils.

Partners Participation.

<u>Partners</u>	<u>Role</u>
Blue Ridge RC&D Mountain Valleys RC&D Southwestern RC&D	Coordination and Administration
Trout Unlimited	Supervision and Monitoring
Soil and Water Conservation Districts	Supervision and Facilities
NC Wildlife Resources Commission	Planning and Monitoring
Local Community Colleges	AmeriCorp Recruiting and Monitoring

(b.) **Design.** The Trout Unlimited Chapter will be primarily responsible for identifying the streams needing improvement and provide some supervision of the daily cleanup activities. The local Soil and Water Conservation District will provide some needed office space and some supervision of the daily cleanup activities in their respective districts. The RC&D Council will supervise the overall cleanup and restorative activities, schedule and organize the cleanup activities in order that the work can progress in a timely and orderly manner.

stream improvement projects will be Native Americans recruited from the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.

OBJECTIVE #2 -- Pilot Test Ecosystem Management and Education Activities in North Carolina parks.

(a.) **Needs to be met and appropriateness for National Service.** Introducing ecosystem management and educational tools will add a new dimension to the experience(s) of users of North Carolina parks. AmeriCorp participants working in these ten parks will serve as a catalyst to demonstrate the value and need for implementing a statewide ecosystem program in all parks.

Needs.

This program will include adding new trails and facilities as well as utilizing and improving existing facilities that promote environmental education. The installation of conservation measures to solve existing problems and complement the ecosystem educational efforts in the park will be completed by participants.

Process.

Needs were identified by public meetings and by public mailings during the process of updating RC&D area plans. Each RC&D area in N.C. has recently (last 2 years) gone through a thorough process to identify community and regional needs. See exhibit A, the process used by Environmental Impact (RC&D). This questionnaire was sent to over 750 homes and businesses in the region. Out of this questionnaire came the idea to develop a Regional Environmental Learning Center within the confines of Weymouth Woods State Park and Natural Area. Similar environmental education projects are planned for Hanging Rock State Park, Pasquotank Multi-purpose Recreation Area, Englehard Far Creek cleanup and boardwalk, Goose Creek State Park environmental education trails, Hope Heritage Forest nature trails, and four new parks planned for New Hanover County.

Partners Participation.

<u>State Park</u>	<u>Partners</u>	<u>Role</u>
Weymouth Woods	Environmental Impact RC&D	Coordination
Hanging Rock	Albemarle RC&D	
Pasquotank Recreation Area	Mid East RC&D	
Englehard Creek Boardwalk	Pilot View RC&D	
Goose Creek State Park	Cape Fear RC&D	
Hope Heritage Forest	State Park Service	Land and Service
4 new parks (New Hanover County)	Local Recreation Commissions	Supervision
	NC Forest Service	

<u>State Park(continued)</u>	<u>Partners(continued)</u>	<u>Role(continued)</u>
	US Forest Service	Funding for Materials
	Carolina Power and Light Co.	Funding for Materials
	Wal Mart Foundation	Funding for Materials
	Moore Soil and Water Conservation District	Technical Support
	Stokes Soil and Water Conservation District	
	Natural Resources Conservation Service	

(b.) Design.

<u>State Park</u>	<u>AmeriCorp Participant Activities</u>
Weymouth Woods	Planning and identifying ecosystems in park.
Hanging Rock	Installing educational facilities including trails, signs, amphitheaters, etc.
Pasquotank Recreational Area	Planning and conducting environmental field days.
Englehard Creek Boardwalk	
Goose Creek State Park	
Hope Heritage Forest	
4 new parks (New Hanover County)	

Evaluation and Monitoring.

Goals for construction and implementation will be established for the short term and monitored by the state park staff. A questionnaire will be developed by the project team(s) to evaluate user satisfaction once the ecosystem plan and facilities are in place.

Concept.

The ecosystem program at each park will be structured such that it can be used by individual(s), families, school groups, and others. Activities and learning experiences will be designed for independent study as well as institutional study. The improvement of trails and the installation of conservation measures will provide a pleasing and safe environment for users. The concept for the design of the program is to provide installation labor for projects where partners cannot afford the expense of contracting this work to a private company.

Service Activities.

Participants will be involved in laying out the planned facilities which will include trails, amphitheaters, exhibit stations, constructing and/or installing exhibits, organizing

environmental field days, manning exhibit stations and giving educational programs. Program participants will be assigned a project location for a given week. They will report to that site each day using a vehicle provided by the NRCS, which will be kept centrally located within the project area. Daily supervision will be provided by the local project sponsor for work to be accomplished each day. These activities will serve to foster an informed citizenry on the environment.

Participant Training and Support.

Training will include a two day overview of the program. Fifty percent of this training orientation will be on site. This will be followed by three days of service learning curriculum. Each participant should complete their tour of service well informed on ecosystem based management. Beyond that accomplishment, each participant will better understand the needs and value of community and public service. This method of training will be used on all three objectives.

Participant Placement and Supervision

Participants will work in teams of five, one-of-which will serve as a team leader. Participants will be supervised by state park staff. Placement: See Objective 3.

OBJECTIVE #3 -- Plan and install 3411 dry hydrants in rural areas in North Carolina.

(a.) **Needs to be met and appropriateness for National Service.** A statewide survey was conducted, by the North Carolina Resource Conservation and Development Association, to determine the need for rural fire protection. (Results attached). These dry hydrants will serve small towns and rural volunteer fire departments that lack staff to process applications, perform needed accounting requirements for materials and placement of dry hydrants. AmeriCorp participants can provide this service to rural communities and fire departments.

Needs.

This program will provide an essential tool which is needed to encourage economic development and sustain rural growth. This statewide system will provide water needed for road maintenance and construction, fire protection, and water intakes for agriculture and other uses.

Process.

The process of determining needs involved input from local and county government, fire departments, the North Carolina Farm Bureau Federation, the North Carolina Fire Fighters Association, and local soil and water conservation districts.

Questionnaires were sent to every county in North Carolina.

Partners Participation.

<u>Partner</u>	<u>Role</u>
Nine Regional RC&D's	Administration
North Carolina Fire Fighters Association	Public Information
North Carolina Farm Bureau Federation	Assess Insurance Reductions
North Carolina Division of Energy	Funding for Materials
Natural Resources Conservation Service	Technical Assistance
Fire Departments	Installation
AmeriCorp Service (Participants)	Coordination/Planning

(b.) Design.

Service Activities

Participants will work with landowners and fire departments with identifying and documenting both private and public water sources for the dry hydrants. They will review applications for dry hydrants submitted to RC&D by fire departments and set priorities on installation based on criteria to be developed by RC&D and other partners. They will schedule shipping of materials and installation of dry hydrants. AmeriCorp participants will be responsible for inventorying and accounting for materials shipped and received from vendors to fire departments. They will monitor and document installation of works, and the solicitation of volunteers to assist with the installation.

Benefits.

Provide a statewide rural fire protection program which will save lives and property. It will reduce fire insurance premiums for all citizens and businesses served by the system. It will be an added dimension which could be a major factor in bringing new businesses and light industry into a rural area.

Evaluation and Monitoring.

This program will result in the installation of 3,411 dry hydrants. Each hydrant will be inspected and certified. Success will be determined by the overall improvement statewide in fire department ISO Classifications which measures the ability of a fire department to maintain a minimum water supply for two hours at a fire scene. Success will be gauged by an overall average upgrade in classification of two rating points of fifty percent of the departments served by dry hydrants. This has the potential of saving numerous lives that might otherwise be lost to fire and a savings of millions of dollars in insurance premiums and property lost annually.

Concept.

This program will be the responsibility of the NC Resource Conservation and Development Association with administration assigned to the nine RC&D areas that serve the state. AmeriCorp participants assigned to Objectives 1 and 2 will be pooled together to work on this project during late fall, winter and early spring.

Participant Training and Support.

Training will include a three day seminar conducted by the NC Fire Fighters Association. Two days will include application processing, identification of water sources, and dry hydrant equipment design. One day will be spent installing and inspecting a dry hydrant.

Participant Placement and Supervision.

Each of the five mini groups requested in Objectives 1 and 2 will be assigned a region of the state that is within a reasonable driving distance from their homebase which is as follows:

<u>Mini Team Location</u>	<u>No. Participants</u>	<u>Objective</u>
Western North Carolina	5	1 and 3
North West North Carolina	5	1 and 3
Northern Piedmont North Carolina	5	2 and 3
Sandhills North Carolina	5	2 and 3
Eastern North Carolina	10	2 and 3

Participants will be supervised by regional fire marshals.

Recruiting AmeriCorp Participants: The participants will be selected in a manner that represents the population of the area. All local high schools, community colleges, and universities will be contacted during the recruitment. To encourage participation by minorities and Native Americans we will use the following:

<u>Objective/Project</u>	<u>Institution</u>	<u>Recruitment</u>
#1	Eastern Band Cherokee Indians	50% minority/natives
#2	A&T University Pembroke, Fayetteville State, and Elizabeth City State Universities	40%
#3	Composite of objectives 1 and 2	45%

Budget.

25 Participants	@ \$ 7,600.00	\$190,000.00
5 Participants (Supervisor)	@ \$12,000.00	60,000.00
30 Training and Perdiem	@ \$ 3,000.00	90,000.00
30 Vouchers	@ \$ 4,725.00	<u>141,750.00</u>
	TOTAL	\$481,750.00
5 Van Transportation		\$ 75,000.00
Mileage (75,000 miles @ \$0.25/mile)		18,750.00
Supplies and Equipment		<u>4,500.00</u>
	TOTAL	\$ 98,250.00
	GRAND TOTAL	\$580,000.00

NORTH CAROLINA

TITLE PAGE:

A. Title of Project: North Carolina Protecting our Environment and Citizens through an Educational and Public Safety Program -- Plan and Install 3,411 Dry Hydrants in Rural Areas in North Carolina

B: Name of Organization: U.S. Department of Agriculture, NRCS

C. Team Type: RDT

D. State of Duty Station: North Carolina

E. County of Duty Station: Buncombe, Alamance, and Pasquotank.

F. Names of counties served: Statewide

G. Congressional District: All

H. Name of Site Supervisor: Lynn McCaskill

I: Address, phone & fax numbers: 100 East Main Street, P.O. Box 653
Aberdeen, NC 28315
Ph: (910) 944-4787
FAX (910) 944-4796

A. Title of Project: Trout Stream Renovation in the Mountains

J: Name of St Project Director: Cecil Settle

K. Address, phone & fax numbers: 4405 Bland Road, Suite 205
Raleigh, NC 27609
Ph: (919) 790-2909
FAX (919) 790-2881

L. Number of Members in PL&E: 0

M. Number of Members in RDT: 15

The three mini teams assigned to the mountains, piedmont, and coastal plains will be used to implement this program. No additional participants beyond these fifteen individuals will be required.

C) Team Type (PL&E or RDT, or combined): combined

D) State of Duty Station of AmeriCorps Members: North Carolina

E) County of Duty station of AmeriCorps Members: Buncombe

F) Names of counties served by Members (up to 15 counties): Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Swain, Jackson, Macon, Haywood, Buncombe, Henderson, Transylvania, Madison, Avery, Mitchell, Yancy, and Watauga.

G) Congressional District of duty station of the Members: 11th

H) Name of site supervisor (at the local or county level): Sally Stokes

I) Address, phone number, and fax number of site supervisor: 22 South Pack Square, Suite 310, South Market Street, Asheville, NC 28801.
Telephone: (704) 252-1675 FAX (704) 252-1675

J) Name of state Project Directors: Cecil Settle

K) Address, phone number, and fax number of State Project Director:
4405 Bland Road, Suite 205, Raleigh, NC 27609. Telephone (919) 790-2909 FAX (919) 790-2881

L) Number of Members in Environmental Teams: 5 members

M) Number of Members in Rural Development Teams: combined (see L above)

OBJ 3.00C

**CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL SERVICE
COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES
Objective 1**

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service SITE: New York, New York
(Members -)
SITE SUPERVISOR: John A. Bricker PHONE: 212/637-3710 COUNTY: New York

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS: To revitalize open space in 8-10 communities.

-
1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?
Vacant lot improvement, tree planting and care, greenway and bicycle trail development and improvement.
 2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?
Enhancing the quality of and improving access to open space and natural resources in the targeted communities.
 3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?
Successful creation of gardens or landscaped sitting areas for community residents; establishment of street trees; establishment/improvement of greenways and bicycle trails.
 4. By what standard will you gauge success?
If community residents utilize these sites and participate in the creation and maintenance of the sites.
 5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?
All of the residents of the targeted community. (There are approximately 50,000 residents on average in a community district * 10 districts = 500,000 residents.)

**CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL SERVICE
COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES
Objective 1**

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service SITE: East Aurora, New York
 GIS (5 Members - RDT)
SITE SUPERVISOR: John Whitney PHONE: (716) 652-8480 COUNTY: Erie

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS: To acquire, produce, distribute and use digital (computerized) natural resource, land use, and demographic data to improve resource planning, conservation and economic development activities at the community level through the use of Geographic Information System technologies.

1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in? Collect additional existing digitized natural resource & demographic data for the 700,000 acre project; digitize a minimum of two additional high priority data layers of moderate complexity for the entire project area; digitize a minimum of 3 complex layers like soils, farm parcels, or tax parcels for a minimum of 100,000 acres; produce at least 3 additional simple data layers like locations of new conservation easements, conservation reserve program fields, bluebird box locations, remnant American Chestnut tree locations, new American Chestnut planting locations, barn owl nest site locations, etc. for the entire project area and nearby counties; distribute data collected to a minimum of 2 municipalities and 2 public agencies; continue to develop & demonstrate applications of GIS.

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above? Improved local resource planning & protection, soil & water conservation, & community and economic development through the use of Geographic Information System technologies. Significantly reduced implementation costs for communities setting up GIS operations. Reduced land use conflicts through a better understanding of natural resources and demographics allowing community officials and are residents to make land use decisions that are more compatible with community needs for farmland protection, open space and environmental protection, sustainable development, and short & long term planning.

3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service? Scale & line quality of digitized products will be measured by comparing output of digitized products with original source material. Community impact will be measured through records of data use for specific project evaluations & general community planning efforts. Discussions, informal surveys, & direct interaction with municipal officials & staff will be the primary measuring tools.

4. By what standard will you gauge success?

Digitizing efforts will incorporate NRCS quality control/quality assurance standards along with the Content Standards for Digitizing Geospatial metadata of the Federal Geographic Data Committee (1994). A minimum of two QA/QC reviews will be required for each data layer developed or acquired prior to distribution or public release. Soil data will include QA/QC reviews by the Soil Information Services Laboratory at Cornell University. Surveys of project partners will ask specifically how useful AmeriCorps developed data is or is expected to be for local resource protection and planning activities. Discussions will continue to include evaluation of impacts on efficiency & effectiveness compared with procedures used prior to incorporation to GIS data.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?

Nearly one million people live in the project area. Approximately 1500 people will be directly impacted. Indirect impacts will extend throughout the project area. Impacts will increase as data is used by additional local communities and agencies. Approximately 15 municipal & partner staff will be directly involved with and impacted by project activity.

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL SERVICE
COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES
Objective 2

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service SITE: East Aurora, New York
 GIS (5 Members - RDT)
SITE SUPERVISOR: John Whitney PHONE: (716) 652-8480 COUNTY: Erie

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS: To assist with stream corridor protection projects throughout Erie County.

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1. **What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?**
AmeriCorps members will assist NRCS Field Office & Soil & Water Conservation District staff, Earth Team Volunteers, and partner organizations with the planning, design, and application of soil & water conservation measures along stream corridors in each of the major watersheds within Erie County targeting their efforts on excavation & installation of fencing, streambank stabilization, buffer strips, and other non-structural measures. Assistance will be directed toward critical erosion areas and areas of degraded riparian habitat.
 2. **What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?**
Erosion will be reduced and habitat will be improved along a minimum of two miles of riparian corridor with at least 200 feet of treatment in each "11 hydrologic unit" watershed in Erie County.
 3. **How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?**
Risk of further erosion reduced by 80%, thermal stress and negative impacts of sediment or non-point source pollutants reduced to natural levels.
 4. **By what standard will you gauge success?**
All planning and application will follow the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service standards and specifications as contained in the Field Office Technical Guide and will be in compliance with all federal, state, and local rules and regulations.
 5. **How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?**
The entire Erie County population (nearly 1,000,000 people) will receive indirect benefits. Approximately 2,000 individuals will be directly impacted by project activities on their property or on nearby properties.

NEW YORK - GIS Supported Community Planning and Resource Protection

SUMMARY PAGE:

A. Exactly what specific accomplishments were achieved in the first half year of the project in meeting the community service objectives and boosting the personal development of the Members?

First half year accomplishments of the five member AmeriCorps team based in East Aurora, New York include acquisition of existing maps and data from various sources including Census Bureau TIGER files, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Freshwater Wetlands and Ecozones, U.S. Geological Survey topographic data, National Heritage Registry, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Wetlands Inventory, and others. Efforts are under way to create a series of county-wide special district maps including Agricultural Districts, Water Districts, Sewer Districts, Fire Protection Districts, etc. Locations of surviving American Chestnut trees in Western New York are being mapped using global positioning satellite technologies in partnership with the NY Chapter of the American Chestnut Foundation. AmeriCorps members are working with local researchers to prepare locations and management maps for mature and remnant "old growth forests" in WNY. Members are collecting other tax parcel information to support a number of greenway and greenspace protection and community development projects. Members digitized national Wetlands Inventory maps for 100% of Erie County (approx. 670,000 ac.), NWI maps for 80% of Niagara Co. (approx. 360,000 ac.), and 130,000 acres of tax parcels data. Resource maps have been developed or acquired to support soil map digitizing and aerial photography interpretation for a 200,000 acre area of northern Erie and southern Niagara Counties as part of the Niagara Frontier Wetlands Initiative. Many simpler data layers and maps were produced with Seneca Nation of Indians, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and U.S. Forest Service input to support cultural resource protection and forest management on the sovereign lands of the Seneca Nation. Procedures were developed and refined to distribute paper and electronic data and to support and demonstrate GIS technologies for community planning and resource protection. Members assisted with three wetland restoration projects, two runoff management projects, three manure management projects, and with inventory activities associated with summer floods and highly erodible land evaluations. Members cartography, GIS, geography, conservation, and civic skills have been greatly developed and enhanced.

B. The key elements of the program design for next year. Specifically describe each new service project performed by the members. Describe any major changes in management structure or partner organizations.

Current community service, community building, and visibility efforts will be strengthened under FY 96 program year design through the further sharing of data, standard operating procedures, project ideas, techniques, and experiences with other GIS work sites in Erie County and throughout New York State and the U.S. via Internet, conventional correspondence, and presentations. Each member will recruit at least two (2) Earth Team volunteers to assist with project activities. Members will each perform at least two (2) public presentations/demonstrations per month in their role as GIS "ambassadors." Members will continue to report directly to and be supervised by staff at the East Aurora Field

Office though smaller teams of AmeriCorps members and volunteers may rotate between three to five other GIS work sites with daily reports to the Field Office. Additional input will be solicited from community leaders on data and resource protection and community development needs.

Missouri
APPZ, DO

Title: Mid-Missouri Farm-A-Syst and Water Quality Project
Organization: USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service - Missouri
Team Type: Rural Development Team (RDT)
State of Duty Station: Missouri
County of Duty Station: Boone
Counties served: Boone, Callaway, Audrain, Howard & Cooper
Site Supervisor: Robert Broz (4 members)
Site Supervisor address: 205 Ag. Eng Bldg, University of Missouri
Columbia, MO 65211
Ph: (314) 882-0085 FAX: (314) 884-5650
Site Supervisor: Ross Braun (1 member)
Site Supervisor address: USDA - NRCS, Parkade Center #250
601 Bux. Loop 70 West
Columbia, MO 65203
Ph: (314) 876-0912 FAX: (314) 876-091
Project Director: Ross Braun
Project Director Address: USDA - NRCS, Parkade Center #250
601 Bus. Loop 70 West
Columbia, MO 65203
Ph: (314) 876-0912 FAX: (314) 876-0913
Number in Team: 5

SUMMARY

Needs: Water quality, both surface and subsurface, is a major concern of the public. The Missouri Department of Natural Resources has identified several potential sources of surface and ground water pollution from farmsteads. Potential pollutants include pesticides, fertilizer, petroleum products, human and animal waste and other household and farm materials that pose a risk to water quality. Potential sources of pollution include storage facilities in homes and outbuildings, handling procedures, actual use of materials and disposal procedures and locations. Pollution risk is high at abandoned and working wells and surface conditions such as waterways, drainage ditches and road ditches. The Missouri Department of Natural Resources and public water supply agencies and companies have expressed an interest to identify well sites within their jurisdiction.

Design: AmeriCorps members will conduct a water quality information campaign, conduct Farm-A-Syst short courses, give presentations to student and adult organizations and assist individual rural residents to evaluate water quality concerns on farmsteads and provide guidance to reduce water pollution risks through protection measures and emergency plans. They will work in five counties in Mid-Missouri.

Participants: 5 AmeriCorps members with natural resource management backgrounds who are willing and able to work full-time.

Partners:

USDA - NRCS: Administering agency, office space, vehicles, and technical support and training.

University of Missouri Extension Service: Lead agency for technical oversight and training, office space.

Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Water Pollution Control Program: Funding for materials and training

Consolidated Farm Service Agency: Training and administrative support.

Mission: To increase awareness of water quality protection needs and measures and assist rural residents to evaluate water quality concerns on their farms in order to implement protection practices.

Objectives:

- 1) Perform Farm-A-Syst evaluations on 500 farmsteads.
- 2) Reduce potential water quality pollution on 250 farmsteads.
- 3) Increase public awareness of water quality concerns through at least 2 public presentations in each of 5

counties.

- 4) Initiate a system to inventory wells and identify 500 well sites.

USDA-NRCS AmeriCorps Project Proposal
January 20, 1995

NARRATIVE

Needs:

This project is a response to concerns about protecting surface and ground water. The Farm-A-Syst program has been developed by the Cooperative Extension System, Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Environmental Protection Agency in order to assess the risks of water pollution from farmsteads and develop individual action plans to reduce risks. Use of the program in Missouri has been limited since other mandates have taken priority. The Extension Service is the lead agency for this program. Farm*A*Syst campaigns have been implemented in two Missouri projects, the Upper Niangua Hydrologic Unit Area and the Mark Twain "319" Water Quality project.

Needs have been identified through monthly state water quality committee meetings that include the University Extension Service, Missouri Department of Natural Resources (DNR), NRCS, CFSA and the Missouri Department of Conservation. In addition, the Extension Service, DNR, CFSA and NRCS worked together to determine priority areas for an AmeriCorps Farm-A-Syst project.

Additional funding and personnel is needed in order to successfully implement the Farm-A-Syst program in Missouri. The Farm-A-Syst program is well suited to the AmeriCorps national service program since implementation asserts direct assistance to communities through presentations and short-courses and individuals through one-on-one guidance to perform farmstead evaluations and determine methods to reduce the risk of water pollution. AmeriCorps members will complete program worksheets with local residents in order to accurately record information, increase understanding and explain risks and solutions to reduce risks. Short courses and formal public presentations complement the program. The direct benefits to communities and residents are an increased understanding of water pollution risks and methods to reduce risks.

Design:

The five AmeriCorps members will be housed at Extension Service and NRCS offices in the Columbia, Missouri area. They will receive training from University Extension Service and NRCS staff. County office staff from both agencies will provide the support to implement an information campaign that includes mailing announcements and developing relationships with community leaders, organizations and local news media. County offices will also provide clerical and technical support.

Members will primarily work one-on-one with residents to complete Farm-A-Syst worksheets and determine implementation of water

protection practices. Well locations will be mapped during the on-farm inventory. They will give presentations to local organizations such as FFA, 4-H, service organizations. Members will also assist Extension Service staff to conduct Farm-A-Syst short courses.

A memorandum of understanding between the NRCS and University of Missouri will be established.

Training:

Farm*A*Syst training and quality oversight will be provided by the Extension Service. Both the Extension Service and NRCS will teach members about natural resource management concepts and water quality principles. Initial Farm*A*Syst training will be provided through a 2 - 3 day session and subsequently will be provided through one-day sessions and on-the-job training. The Extension Service will conduct the Farm*A*Syst training with assistance from NRCS. The Extension Service will assist the NRCS Project Director to complete individual performance evaluations.

CFSA will coordinate training on communication skills, first aid and defensive driving.

USDA-NRCS AmeriCorps Project Proposal

Placement:

Members will be placed individually since an office large enough to house an additional five people is not available. We will utilize space at the University of Missouri, Columbia, the NRCS State Office and local NRCS and Extension Service offices. Members will have office space in order to have access to agency electronic mail, phones, copiers, fax machines and both clerical and technical support.

Supervision:

Robert Broz, University Extension Service, will provide technical supervision
Ross Braun, NRCS AmeriCorps Project Director will serve as administrative supervisor for the five members.

BUDGET

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS):

Living Allowances:	5 @ \$12,000 =	\$ 60,000
FICA, Unemployment, Workmen's Comp:	5 @ 1,878	9,390
Health Benefits:	5 @ 1,200	6,000
Support:	<u>5 @ 1,510 =</u>	<u>7,550</u>
	TOTAL:	\$ 82,940

In-kind costs: 5 Vehicles
Project Director & Administrative support

University of Missouri Extension Service:

In-kind costs: Office space, supplies, phone, fax & computer
Secretarial support
Instructional & Supervisory support

Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) - Water Pollution Program (319 Funds)

Farm-A-Syst Notebooks	500 @ \$10 each	\$ 5,000
<u>Postage: 5 counties x 2,000 letters x .32</u>		<u>3,200</u>
TOTAL:		\$ 8,200

In-kind costs: Grant administration

Consolidated Farm Service Agency (CFSA)

In-kind costs: Training and administrative support

TOTAL PROJECT COSTS:

\$ 91,140 plus in-kind costs to NRCS, Extension Service, MDNR and CFSA.

06J2, Doc

Missouri

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES
Objective 1

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service **SITE:** Columbia, Missouri
Farm*A*Syst (5 Members - RDT)
SITE SUPERVISOR: Robert Broz (4 members) **PHONE:** (314) 882-0085 **COUNTY:** Boone
Ross Braun (1 member) (314) 876-0912

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS: Improve water quality

-
- 1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?**
Do Farm*A*Syst evaluations, provide one-on-one assistance, develop and implement a marketing effort to create interest in the evaluation process, direct Farm*A*Syst participants to technical & financial assistance.
 - 2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?**
500 farms completed evaluation; 50% of farmers in watershed will have received information; requests for evaluations, farm families have a better understanding of Groundwater Protection Practices around the farm. Each member will make 2 presentations; at least 500 well sites will be clearly identified using a USGS topographic map or a global positioning system (GPS).
 - 3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?**
500 farms have altered at least one practice to reduce pollution, 90% of work sheets properly completed; 90% of recipients have indicated satisfaction with the service.
 - 4. By what standard will you gauge success?**
Residents will request Farm*A*Syst assistance & 500 evaluations will be completed. 50% are intending to apply a practice the next year, a service evaluation form will be completed by each family. Well site maps will be used by public water supply organizations.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?

500 farm families will receive direct assistance, Community members from at least 10 organizations will have an improved understanding of water quality concerns.

APP1, DOC

NEW Hampshire

A Proposal
for an
AmeriCorps Rural Development Corps Project

N.H. Resource Revitalization Team

January 24, 1995

Submitted by:

USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service in New Hampshire

in cooperation with the

North Country Resource Conservation and Development Council

and

Southern N.H. Resource Conservation and Development Council

Project Summary

Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Councils in New Hampshire (N.H.) are volunteer organizations established to assist communities and non-profit organizations address needs and create opportunities that will improve the social, economic and environmental fabric of rural areas. RC&Ds respond to requests for assistance and assertive, pro-active actions in specific topic areas that are directed at developing or conserving critical natural resources. The RC&D no-turf, can do project oriented philosophy brings a diverse mixture of agencies, organizations and individuals together to get things done. In N.H. RC&D's partner list is greater than sixty agencies and organizations.

At the heart of the RC&D process in N.H. are the resource committees. These committees take responsibility for conducting a public participation process which assesses the conditions, trends, needs and opportunities concerning forest, water, agriculture and human/community resources. Through this process, RC&Ds are able to interact with hundreds of individuals to gain their insights and comments on the validity of any proposed action. The result of this assessment and public participation process is a plan of action. Actions are carried out by teams of volunteers recruited from the public and private sector that are interested in the success of that project. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) through the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is currently able to provide limited administrative and technical assistance to RC&D Councils to help conduct this process. The USDA created the RC&D program in the mid-sixties to be a locally directed, self-motivated rural development delivery system.

The purpose of this project is to create a Resource Revitalization Team to work with communities and non-profits through each of the RC&D councils in N.H. The Team will help the resource assessment and action teams and serve as project managers on specific action items. Americorps participants in these functions will provide a degree of continuity not currently available to the RC&D Councils. It will allow RC&D Councils help N.H. communities revitalize their rural economies and maintain their desired rural character while protecting and developing their valuable natural and human resources.

Project Mission and Objectives

Mission

The mission of the N.H. Resource Revitalization Team is to enable the RC&D Councils in N.H. to interact with and respond to requests for assistance from communities, organize resource assessments and help organize and implement projects by providing technical support to project teams.

Objectives

Community service

1. To initiate contact with, establish and manage communication networks of community and organizational representatives in each of four resource categories including forest, water, agricultural and human/community.
2. To organize and provide coordination and organizational support to 30 project teams working on identified resource concerns and opportunities.

Community Building

1. Develop organizational skills at the team level.
2. Develop a collaborative approach to resource issues between communities and organizations.
3. Facilitate the sharing of resources between communities and organizations.

Participant Development

1. Training in team approached problem assessment and problem solving.
2. Training in organizational effectiveness.
3. Training in project organization and management.

Project Narrative

A. Needs to be addressed by this Project

This proposal is appropriate for consideration under the AmeriCorps Rural Development Corps Program because it addresses specifically identified community revitalization, resource conservation and development needs. It is also an appropriate proposal because it will place and direct assistance at the grass roots level and on project specific activities.

RC&D Councils conduct regular needs assessments to insure that projects which are adopted are wanted and will have area wide benefit. All projects adopted by RC&D Councils in N.H. are driven by one of the following needs:

To develop and promote creative approaches to use and manage land for agriculture, forestry, water, wildlife, recreation and community needs.

To protect the quality of natural resources thorough education, training, technical and financial assistance.

- To better utilize locally available resources.
- To expand natural resources based opportunities that contribute to economic and social vitality.
- To improve and develop new technologies for agriculture and forestry.
- To achieve balanced development combining natural resource utilization, tourism, industry and commerce.
- To increase citizen awareness, involvement and effectiveness as the foundation to natural, technical, financial and human resource development.

To help communities find ways to provide needed facilities, resource recovery and recycling opportunities.

B. Project Design

Service Activities to be Performed

The objectives of this project will be achieved by the Resource Revitalization Team. Americorps participants of the Team will be recruited to insure appropriate experience, education and diversity. The Team will be composed of five participants assigned to work with both RC&D Councils. Team participants will include a communications coordinator, a forester, a marketing specialist, a soil and water conservationist and an organizational consultant. The Team will receive administrative support from the RC&D Councils. Technical support and training will be provided by the Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Forest Service and other RC&D partner organizations. Supervision of the Team will be provided by the RC&D Project Coordinators.

The Team will help project teams organize and stay on track. The specific disciplines provided by individual Team participants

will be directed to appropriated situations.

Duties of the Resource Revitalization Team include:

Communications Coordinator: Responsible for organizing the public outreach and the resource assessment process. Once projects are selected, the communications coordinator utilizes the resource network to contact potential project team members and organize the project team. Once projects are underway, the communications coordinator will assist the project teams with external communications, education and marketing of ideas.

Forester: This position will focus on forest product utilization. Being 87% forested, rural areas in N.H. rely on a strong wood-based economy. This position will work with communities, agencies and organizations wishing to improve or develop value-added technology and business operations.

Business Management/Marketing Specialist: Work closely with the utilization forester and other natural resource based product and market development partners on technology, improvements and feasibility analyses. This position will also help communities assist existing businesses investigate improvement and expansion opportunities.

Soil and Water Conservationist: Responsible for analyzing natural resource capabilities and limitations. Leads all resource protection and conservation projects. Provides consultation advice to other teams to insure that environmental integrity and ecological balance are maintained.

Organizational Specialist: Responsible for providing organizational support to individual project teams. Will provide training and support services to insure maximum effectiveness of the project team as a functional unit. Will conduct evaluations and assessments on the success of each component of the process.

AmeriCorps participants will receive technical training and support that enables them to excel in their positions. The training will be valuable to the AmeriCorps participants in their future employment.

Each AmeriCorps participant will be assigned as project manager to at least six projects. As manager, they will be the principal coordinator/liaison between the project team and outside resources. However, the Resource Revitalization Team will also function as a complete unit in order to provide a project team with the full spectrum of services as warranted.

Anticipated Results of this Project include:

1. Assistance to a Chamber of Commerce to complete a resource inventory and develop an overall economic

development plan.

2. Help to communities to conduct townwide Forest Land Evaluation Site Assessments (FLESA) to identify critical forest lands.
3. Working with individual farmers and farming organizations will develop the fee for hunting business and other farm diversification enterprises.
4. A leadership training program for municipal and non-profit board members will be organized.
5. Communities and watershed organizations will conduct environmental clean-up projects, public education and watershed management activities.
6. Local conservation commissions will conduct wetland inventories and functional assessments.
7. communities will develop eco-tourism marketing programs.
8. Communities will initiate recycling programs.
9. A flexible marketing network of secondary wood product manufacturers will be organized.

Additional project activities where AmeriCorps participants would be involved would be determined by the results of the public outreach resource assessment and requests from individual communities and non-profit organizations that have been endorsed by the RC&D Council.

C. Evaluation

The success of this project will be evaluated in several ways. The first is associated with the public outreach resource assessment. The extent of the outreach network and the degree of responses from the network will indicate how successful the process has been.

The second opportunity for evaluation is at the formation of individual project or action teams. The degree of success of the Team to get project teams organized, functioning and on task will be assessed using individual and group effectiveness evaluation surveys.

In addition, the Resource Revitalization Team will be asked to assess how effective they feel the project teams have been in reaching their specific goals.

All residents of N.H. will receive benefit from this project, but particularly those involved in community government and natural resources based industry.

D. Sustainability, Innovation and Replicability

RC&D Councils are ideal organizations in which to place AmeriCorps participants. The RC&D approach is a bottom up, grass roots initiative. The expertise and energy of the AmeriCorps participants will be put to use in a myriad of ways all aimed at community revitalization, resource conservation and development. This project will serve as a model that can certainly be replicated in other states.

Annual Budget

	Funds Requested	Grantee Contributions	Total
1. Personnel			
A. Stipends			
\$12,000 X 5	\$60,000	- 0 -	\$60,000
B. Benefits			
\$3,500 X 5	17,500	- 0 -	17,500
C. Contract Services			
\$ 100/month		\$ 1,200	1,200
D. Training			
\$1,000 X 5		5,000	5,000
2. Non-Personnel			
A. Office	- 0 -	6,000	6,000
B. Telephone	- 0 -	800	800
C. Utilities	- 0 -	600	600
D. Equipment			
Computer	- 0 -	4,000	4,000
Desk, chairs, etc.		1,000	1,000
Photo copier		2,000	2,000
Fax		1,200	1,200
E. Office Supplies		600	600
F. Educational materials	- 0 -	1,400	1,400
G. Printing		1,200	1,200
H. Travel			
Mileage 30,00 @.25/mile		7,500	7,500
Vehicles 3 @ \$10,000 each		30,000	30,000
Vehicle Maintenance	- 0 -	2,000	2,000
I. Other			
Publications		<u>200</u>	<u>200</u>
	\$77,500	\$64,700	\$142,200

A Proposal
for an
AmeriCorps Rural Development Corps Project

N.H. Rural Fire Protection
Technical Team

January 24, 1995

Submitted by:

USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service in New Hampshire
in cooperation with the

North Country Resource Conservation and Development Area Council
Southern N.H. Resource Conservation and Development Council
and the

N.H. Rural Fire Protection Task Force and
its cooperating agencies and organizations including:
N.H. Fire Marshalls Office N.H. Division of
Forests & Lands USDA - Natural Resources
Conservation service UNH Cooperative Extension
N.H. Association of Conservation Districts N.H.
Bureau of Fire Standards & Training N.H.
Association of Fire Chiefs N.H. Fire Prevention
Society N.H. Insurance Department New Boston Fire
Department Strafford County Conservation District
N.H. Technical College
Federal Emergency Management Agency N.H. Office of
Emergency Management

Project Summary

Rural communities in New Hampshire (N.H.) face a unique set of obstacles and challenges in their attempts to provide protection from loss of life and property caused by fire. The rural character in N.H. inherently contributes to large acreage's of poorly accessible land; narrow, winding and often, dirt roads; increasingly intermixed wildland and suburban type development; lack of year-round developed water withdrawal sites; volunteer fire departments and small town budget constraints.

As rural communities in N.H. strive to provide basic services to their residents as well as strengthen their position in our developing state, many communities have a major concern about the difficulty of providing adequate fire protection. The purpose of this project is to provide educational, organizational and technical services not normally available to rural communities in N.H. These services will be provided through the creation of the N.H. Rural Fire Protection Technical Team.

The N.H. Rural Fire Protection Technical Team will consist of a coordinator/director, an information and education coordinator, a community planner and two engineers. Fire protection and fire prevention plans will be produced by the Team in concert with local organizations and agencies. The project will be administered by the North Country and Southern New Hampshire Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Area Councils for the N.H. Rural Fire Protection Task Force. Agency partners of the Task Force include: N.H. Fire Marshall's Office, N.H. Division of Forests & Lands, USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service, UNH Cooperative Extension, N.H. Association of Conservation Districts, N.H. Bureau of Fire Standards & Training, N.H. Association of Fire Chiefs, N.H. Fire Prevention Society, N.H. Insurance Department, New Boston Fire Department, Strafford County Conservation District, N.H. Technical College, Federal Emergency Management Agency, N.H. Office of Emergency Management.

Project Mission and Objectives

Mission

The mission of the N.H. Rural Fire Protection Technical Team is to help communities reduce risk and loss of life and property due to fire through a comprehensive problem solving approach including local education, organization and technical improvements.

Objectives

Community Service

1. To provide the skills and technical information to help 60 rural fire departments in N.H. develop innovative fire protection plans for their communities.
2. To have 60 rural fire departments in N.H. fully understand water supply needs and management principles.
3. To assist 40 rural N.H. communities find innovative ways to carry out planned improvements.
4. To have 20 fire departments in N.H. create and implement a comprehensive educational fire prevention plan with their citizens.

Community Building

1. Development of organizational skills at the community level.
2. Facilitation of a collaborative effort involving diverse community interests.
3. Sharing resources among neighboring communities.

Participant Development

1. Training in team approached problem assessment and problem solving.
2. Training in organizational effectiveness.
3. Training in project organization and management.

Project Narrative

A. Needs to be addressed by this project

This proposal is appropriate for consideration within the AmeriCorps Rural Development Corps Program because it specifically addresses needs of rural N.H. communities that could not be addressed otherwise. Improving a community's ability to prevent and suppress the threat of fire will have direct benefits for community revitalization as well as protecting the natural resources so critical to rural lifestyle and economies in our state. Because 80% of rural businesses that are destroyed by fire are not rebuilt, it is critical to the economic stability of rural communities to be able to provide adequate service.

In preparation for this project, a detailed survey was sent to all 244 fire departments in N.H. The results of the survey established the basis for the needs assessment used in the preparation of this project proposal as well as other activities currently underway onto which this project, if funded, will build.

The N.H. Rural Fire Protection Task Force is already involved in writing and publishing a compendium of information on issues critical to rural communities wishing to improve their fire prevention and suppression capabilities. This compendium of information will be initially introduced in the Spring of 1995 at two regional seminars. In addition, a pilot cost sharing program will be instituted this year to provide modest financial incentives to communities wishing to undertake prevention and protection actions. The Rural Fire Protection Technical Team will help provide a degree of contact with communities not currently possible. The existence of the Team will allow timely and direct interaction with communities most interested in improving their fire protection services.

B. Project Design

Service Activities to be Performed

The objectives of this project will be reached by a New Hampshire Rural Fire Protection Technical Team. Team members will be recruited locally to insure appropriate experience, education and diversity. This Team will be comprised of a team coordinator/director, an information and education coordinator, a community planner and two civil engineers. The Team will receive administrative support from the RC&D Councils in N.H. These councils are working in partnership with the New Hampshire Rural Fire Protection Task Force who will provide technical support, project guidance and priorities. Supervision of the Team will be provided by the North Country RC&D Projects Coordinator.

The duties of the team members are:

Coordinator/Director: Responsible for overall team administration, including developing a plan of work, scheduling, compiling comprehensive community plans, supervision of other specialists, etc.

Information and Education Coordinator: Overall marketing of the project through media, organizations and other appropriate opportunities. Develop training program and tools. Assist individual fire departments identify their fire prevention educational needs and implement an innovative strategy to meet them.

Community Planner: Interaction of community fire protection planning with other aspects of local government; specifically planning, zoning and economic development. Helps community collect and interpret natural resources and community resource information as related to developing fire protection strategies.

Civil Engineers (2): To insure adherence to Natural Resources Conservation Service standards and specifications. To evaluate and design water withdrawal facilities as a part of comprehensive fire protection community plans. Provide technical assistance in installing planned improvements.

Team members will receive technical training that enables them to excel in their positions. The training will also be valuable in their future employment.

Individual fire departments and communities will be contacted on behalf of the Team by the New Hampshire Rural fire Protection Task Force. Team services will be offered to help them prepare comprehensive rural fire protection and prevention plans. Every community has its unique features and its plan will be carefully tailored to meet the locally identified needs. At the same time we will encourage the development of mutual aid strategies to enhance regional fire protection capabilities.

Anticipated Results of this Project Include:

- 60 communities will have a comprehensive fire protection plan to improve the capability of the fire department.
- 60 communities will have a comprehensive fire prevention plan.
- 40 communities will have on-site technical assistance and properly installed non-pressure hydrants, cisterns and other water drafting facilities.
- 60 communities will have developed a plan and implement to obtain resources for improvements.
- 60 communities will have received training and developed strategies to identify what water is needed, what is available and how to move it to accomplish fire control.

Every community in New Hampshire would have the opportunity to request this assistance. They would be required to establish a local task force that works with the Technical Team to develop their plans and strategies.

This approach will be successful because local decision-makers are leading their own improvement initiatives. They are supported by a partnership that is recognized in New Hampshire as an authority in rural fire protection and community development.

C. Evaluation

The New Hampshire Rural Fire Protection Task Force will be responsible for overall evaluation of this project. Since this is reinventing how assistance is being provided to communities for fire protection, the Task Force will constantly monitor and improve the delivery of services and evaluate success.

The long-term evaluation will be reduction in loss of lives and property, improved personal security and reduced costs for fire insurance. Short-term progress will be measured against the ten objectives outlined in this proposal.

The impact or benefit of this project will be measured by the numbers of communities involved, the numbers of fire prevention and protection plans developed and the number of water drafting sites installed.

Assistance will be directed towards communities with populations of less than 3,000 people. With 60 communities participating, we expect a minimum of 180,000 people will benefit from this program per year.

D. Sustainability, Innovation and Replicability

The Rural Fire Protection Technical Team will utilize grass roots participation to identify needs and develop rural fire protection plans for communities. This innovative approach will be a bottoms up initiative rather than the traditional top down method. Ownership on the part of local people will ensure maximum effectiveness of the program because it belongs to the community. We will also be encouraging communities and fire departments to think regionally to work together with surrounding fire departments to create well informed and smooth working partnerships.

In New Hampshire there is a constant effort by the fire fighters to improve. Training courses are sponsored by the New Hampshire Fire Chiefs Association on a regional basis; local mutual aid systems develop training programs and individual fire departments have their own training plans. This Rural Fire Protection Initiative will be incorporated into these existing programs. All fire departments in New Hampshire will be reached at the end of the three (3) year initiative.

This project will serve as a model that can be replicated in other states.

Annual Budget

	Funds Requested	Grantee Contributions	Total
1. Personnel			
A. Stipends \$12,000 X 5	\$60,000	- 0 -	\$60,000
B. Benefits \$3,500 X 5	17,500	- 0 -	17,500
C. Contract Services \$100/month		1,200	1,200
D. Training \$1,000 X 5		5,000	5,000
2. Non-Personnel			
A. Office	- 0 -	6,000	6,000
B. Telephone	- 0 -	800	800
C. Utilities	- 0 -	600	600
D. Equipment			
Computer	- 0 -	4,000	4,000
Survey equipment	- 0 -	3,000	3,000
Desk, chairs, etc.	- 0 -	1,000	1,000
Photo copier	- 0 -	2,000	2,000
Fax	- 0 -	1,200	1,200
E. Office Supplies	- 0 -	600	600
F. Educational materials	- 0 -	1,400	1,400
G. Printing	- 0 -	1,200	1,200
H. Travel			
Mileage 30,00 @.25/mile		7,500	7,500
Vehicles 3 @ \$10,000 each		30,000	30,000
Vehicle Maintenance	- 0 -	2,000	2,000
I. Other			
Publications		<u>200</u>	<u>200</u>
	\$77,500	\$67,700	\$145,200

SUMMARY

AmeriCorps Participants will assist with the implementation of the Idaho Home*A*Syst environmental and drinking water protection program. Participants from diverse backgrounds will be important, as will the ability of participants to work with individuals from diverse background. The National Farm*A*Syst program and the Idaho Home*A*Syst program provide an organized process for working directly with local residents and communities to providing education, pollution-risk assessments, and recommendations.

Specific needs to be met include: 1) receiving educational training and associated skills on the Home*A*Syst Program and the specifics of the pollution-risk assessment as well as providing educational opportunities for local citizens enabling them to better understand their impacts on the environment and their drinking water; 2) increased assistance to citizens within local communities, especially low-income, elderly or disabled citizens, and available assistance programs identified to provide financial or technical support; 3) protection of domestic drinking water supplies by assessing pollution-risk as they relate to activities within and around individual home sites and correcting at risk activities or conditions; 4) eliminating environmental hazards by educating the public, evaluating pollution-risk, and correcting at risk activities or conditions.

An Idaho a Home*A*Syst planning committee was formed in 1993 and is key to the site design as well as the overall success of the project. The committee includes representatives from the Natural Resources Conservation Service, Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts, Idaho Department of Agriculture, Idaho Department of Water Resources, Idaho Department of Health and Welfare-Division of Environmental Quality, Idaho Health Districts, University of Idaho Cooperative Extension Service, Idaho Water Resources Research Institute, Consolidated Farm-n Services Agency and Idaho Soil Conservation Commission.

An EPA 319 grant proposal was submitted and approved for FY 1995 funding to complete a number of task, but most importantly to hire a full-time project specialist for two years. This position is currently being filled and will be housed at the Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts Office. This will hopefully encourage a better acceptance of the program within local Soil Conservation Districts and communities than might otherwise occur if the position were housed under a state or federal agency.

Participants will be located in local Natural Resources Conservation Service/Soil Conservation District water quality project offices and will work with existing information & education specialist. The participants will be supervised and administered by project NRCS and District personnel, with overall supervision coming directly from the Home*A*Syst Project

A Proposal
for an
AmeriCorps Rural Development Corps Project

N.H. Resource Revitalization Team

January 24, 1995

Submitted by:

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The purpose of this project is to create a Resource Revitalization Team to work with communities and non-profits through each of the RC&D Councils in N.H. The Team will help the RC&D Councils conduct their annual resource assessment and action planning process, organize project teams and serve as project managers on specific action items. AmeriCorps participants in these functions will provide a degree of continuity not currently available to the RC&D Councils. It will allow RC&D Councils help N.H. communities revitalize their rural economies and maintain their desired rural character while protecting and developing their valuable natural and human resources.

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Mission

The mission of the N.H. Resource Revitalization Team is to enable the RC&D Councils in N.H. to interact with and respond to requests for assistance from communities, organize resource assessments and help organize and implement projects by providing technical support to project teams.

Objectives

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2. To organize and provide coordination and organizational support to 30 project teams working on identified resource concerns and opportunities.

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1. Develop organizational skills at the team level.
2. Develop a collaborative approach to resource issues between communities and organizations.
3. Facilitate the sharing of resources between communities and organizations.

Participant Development

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2. Training in organizational effectiveness.
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Project Narrative

A. Needs to be addressed by this project

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- To protect the quality of natural resources thorough education, training, technical and financial assistance.
- To better utilize locally available resources.
- To expand natural resources based opportunities that contribute to economic and social vitality.
- To improve and develop new technologies for agriculture and forestry.
- To achieve balanced development combining natural resource utilization, tourism, industry and commerce.
- To increase citizen awareness, involvement and effectiveness as the foundation to natural, technical, financial and human resource development.
- To help communities find ways to provide needed facilities, resource recovery and recycling opportunities.

B. Project Design

Service Activities to be Performed

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The Team will help project teams organize and stay on track. The specific disciplines provided by individual Team participants will be directed to appropriated situations.

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Communications Coordinator: Responsible for organizing the public outreach and the resource assessment process. Once projects are selected, the communications coordinator utilizes the resource network to contact potential project team members and organize the project team. Once projects are underway, the communications coordinator will assist the project teams with external communications, education and marketing of ideas.

Forester: This position will focus on forest product utilization. Being 87% forested, rural areas in N.H. rely on a strong wood-based economy. This position will work with communities, agencies and organizations wishing to improve or develop value-added technology and business operations.

Business Management/Marketing Specialist: Work closely with the utilization forester and other natural resource based product and market development partners on technology, improvements and feasibility analyses. This position will also help communities assist existing businesses investigate improvement and expansion opportunities.

Soil and Water Conservationist: Responsible for analyzing natural resource capabilities and limitations. Leads all resource protection and conservation projects. Provides consultation advice to other teams to insure that environmental integrity and ecological balance are maintained.

Organizational Specialist: Responsible for providing organizational support to individual project teams. Will provide training and support services to insure maximum effectiveness of the project team as a functional unit. Will conduct evaluations and assessments on the success of each component of the process.

AmeriCorps participants will receive technical training and support that enables them to excel in their positions. The training will be valuable to the AmeriCorps participants in their future employment.

Each AmeriCorps participant will be assigned as project manager to at least six projects. As manager, they will be the principal coordinator/liaison between the project team and outside resources. However, the Resource Revitalization Team will also function as a complete unit in order to provide a project team with the full spectrum of services as warranted.

Anticipated Results of this Project include:

1. Assistance to a Chamber of Commerce to complete a resource inventory and develop an overall economic development plan.
2. Help to communities to conduct townwide Forest Land Evaluation Site Assessments (FLESA) to identify critical forest lands.
3. Working with individual farmers and farming organizations will develop the fee for hunting business and other farm diversification enterprises.
4. A leadership training program for municipal and non-profit board members will be organized.
5. Communities and watershed organizations will conduct environmental clean-up projects, public education and watershed management activities.
6. Local conservation commissions will conduct wetland inventories and functional assessments.
7. Communities will develop eco-tourism marketing programs.
8. Communities will initiate recycling programs.
9. A flexible marketing network of secondary wood product manufacturers will be organized.

Additional project activities where AmeriCorps participants would be involved would be determined by the results of the public outreach resource assessment and requests from individual communities and non-profit organizations that have been endorsed by the RC&D Council.

C. Evaluation

The success of this project will be evaluated in several ways. The first is associated with the public outreach resource assessment. The extent of the outreach network and the degree of responses from the network will indicate how successful the process has been.

The second opportunity for evaluation is at the formation of individual project or action teams. The degree of success of the Team to get project teams organized, functioning and on task will be assessed using individual and group effectiveness evaluation surveys.

In addition, the Resource Revitalization Team will be asked to assess how effective they feel the project teams have been in reaching their specific goals.

All residents of N.H. will receive benefit from this project, but particularly those involved in community government and natural resources based industry.

D. Sustainability, Innovation and Replicability

RC&D Councils are ideal organizations in which to place AmeriCorps participants. The RC&D approach is a bottom up, grass roots initiative. The expertise and energy of the AmeriCorps participants will be put to use in a myriad of ways all aimed at community revitalization, resource conservation and development. This project will serve as a model that can certainly be replicated in other states.

Annual Budget

	Funds Requested	Grantee Contributions	Total
1. Personnel			
A. Stipends			
\$12,000 X 5	\$60,000	- 0 -	\$60,000
B. Benefits			
\$3,500 X 5	17,500	- 0 -	17,500
C. Contract Services			
\$100/month		\$ 1,200	1,200
D. Training			
\$1,000 X 5		5,000	5,000
2. Non-Personnel			
A. Office	- 0 -	6,000	6,000
B. Telephone	- 0 -	800	800
C. Utilities	- 0 -	600	600
D. Equipment			
Computer	- 0 -	4,000	4,000
Desk, chairs, etc.	- 0 -	1,000	1,000
Photo copier	- 0 -	2,000	2,000
Fax	- 0 -	1,200	1,200
E. Office Supplies	- 0 -	600	600
F. Educational materials	- 0 -	1,400	1,400
G. Printing	- 0 -	1,200	1,200
H. Travel			
Mileage 30,00 @.25/mile		7,500	7,500
Vehicles 3 @ \$10,000 each		30,000	30,000
Vehicle Maintenance	- 0 -	2,000	2,000
I. Other			
Publications		<u>200</u>	<u>200</u>
	<u>\$77,500</u>	<u>\$64,700</u>	<u>\$142,200</u>

Refer to the Title Page Instruction on page 26. Please type or print in black ink.

FOR INTERNAL USE ONLY

APPLICATION TITLE: N.H. Rural Fire Protection Team
 Single-Site Multi-Site

2. LEGAL APPLICANT: USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service
Contact Person's Name: Dawn W. Genes, State Conservationist
Address: Federal Building - 2 Madbury Road
City, State, Zip: Durham, NH 03824-1499
Telephone/Fax: (603) 868-7581 FAX: (603) 868-5301

Applicant's Congressional District: 1 & 2

3. INSTITUTIONAL INFORMATION Federal Agency National Non-Profit Organization Professional Corps Prog. Multi-State Program
Employer's ID Number: _____

4. PROJECT DIRECTOR: Rick DeMark
Organization's Name: North Country Resource Conservation & Development
Address: 103 Main Street - Suite #1
City, State, Zip: Meredith, NH 03253-9266
Telephone/Fax: (603) 279-6546 FAX: (603) 279-4787

5. GRANT TYPE: Planning or Operating or Educational Awards Only

6. ISSUE AREA AND NATIONAL PRIORITIES: Educational Environment
 School Readiness Neighborhood Environment
 School Success Natural Environment
 Human Needs Public Safety
 Independent Living Violence Prevention
 Community Revitalization Crime Control

7. AREA(S) TO BE SERVED: Statewide
 Urban Rural Other
Congressional District of primary area served: 1 & 2
Congressional Districts of secondary areas served: _____

8. PARTICIPANTS: # of Full-time Participants 5 # of Full-time Participants Needing Educational Awards 5
of Part-time Participants _____ # of Part-time Participants Needing Educational Awards *
of Participants Needing Child Care * # of Expected National Recruitment Participants _____
of their Children needing Child Care _____
of Unfunded Participants _____
* Not determined as of date of submittal

9. BUDGET: Corporation Funds Requested YR1 77,500 YR2 77,500 YR3 77,500
Total Budget Amount YR1 145,200 YR2 145,200 YR3 145,200

10. PROGRAM OPERATES in an area of need as identified by the Corporation? Yes or No
Which One? Human Needs - Environment - Public Safety

11. PROJECT DURATION: Start Date 9/95 End Date 8/98 Number of Program Terms 3

CERTIFICATION: The applicant certifies to the best of his/her knowledge and belief that the data in this application are true and correct and that the filing of the application has been duly authorized by the governing body of the applicant and that the applicant will comply with the assurances required of applicants if the assistance is approved.

Date: 1/27/95 Name: Dawn W. Genes Title: State Conservationist
Telephone: (603) 868-7581 Signature: *Dawn W. Genes*

TITLE PAGE AMERICORPS NATIONAL DIRECT APPLICATION

A Proposal
for an
AmeriCorps Rural Development Corps Project

N.H. Rural Fire Protection
Technical Team

January 24, 1995

Submitted by:

USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service in New Hampshire
in cooperation with the

North Country Resource Conservation and Development Area Council
Southern N.H. Resource Conservation and Development Council
and the

N.H. Rural Fire Protection Task Force and
its cooperating agencies and organizations including:

N.H. Fire Marshal's Office
N.H. Division of Forests & Lands
USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service
UNH Cooperative Extension
N.H. Association of Conservation Districts
N.H. Bureau of Fire Standards & Training
N.H. Association of Fire Chiefs
N.H. Fire Prevention Society
N.H. Insurance Department
New Boston Fire Department
Strafford County Conservation District
N.H. Technical College
Federal Emergency Management Agency
N.H. Office of Emergency Management

Project Summary

Rural communities in New Hampshire (N.H.) face a unique set of obstacles and challenges in their attempts to provide protection from loss of life and property caused by fire. The rural character in N.H. inherently contributes to large acreages of poorly accessible land; narrow, winding and often, dirt roads; increasingly intermixed wildland and suburban type development; lack of year-round developed water withdrawal sites; volunteer fire departments and small town budget constraints.

As rural communities in N.H. strive to provide basic services to their residents as well as strengthen their position in our developing state, many communities have a major concern about the difficulty of providing adequate fire protection. The purpose of this project is to provide educational, organizational and technical services not normally available to rural communities in N.H. These services will be provided through the creation of the N.H. Rural Fire Protection Technical Team.

The N.H. Rural Fire Protection Technical Team will consist of a coordinator/director, an information and education coordinator, a community planner and two engineers. Fire protection and fire prevention plans will be produced by the Team in concert with local organizations and agencies. The project will be administered by the North Country and Southern New Hampshire Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Area Councils for the N.H. Rural Fire Protection Task Force. Agency partners of the Task Force include: N.H. Fire Marshall's Office, N.H. Division of Forests & Lands, USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service, UNH Cooperative Extension, N.H. Association of Conservation Districts, N.H. Bureau of Fire Standards & Training, N.H. Association of Fire Chiefs, N.H. Fire Prevention Society, N.H. Insurance Department, New Boston Fire Department, Strafford County Conservation District, N.H. Technical College, Federal Emergency Management Agency, N.H. Office of Emergency Management.

Project Mission and Objectives

Mission

The mission of the N.H. Rural Fire Protection Technical Team is to help communities reduce risk and loss of life and property due to fire through a comprehensive problem solving approach including local education, organization and technical improvements.

Objectives

Community Service

1. To provide the skills and technical information to help 60 rural fire departments in N.H. develop innovative fire protection plans for their communities.
2. To have 60 rural fire departments in N.H. fully understand water supply needs and management principles.
3. To assist 40 rural N.H. communities find innovative ways to carry out planned improvements.
4. To have 20 fire departments in N.H. create and implement a comprehensive educational fire prevention plan with their citizens.

Community Building

1. Development of organizational skills at the community level.
2. Facilitation of a collaborative effort involving diverse community interests.
3. Sharing resources among neighboring communities.

Participant Development

1. Training in team approached problem assessment and problem solving.
2. Training in organizational effectiveness.
3. Training in project organization and management.

Project Narrative

A. Needs to be addressed by this project

This proposal is appropriate for consideration within the AmeriCorps Rural Development Corps Program because it specifically addresses needs of rural N.H. communities that could not be addressed otherwise. Improving a community's ability to prevent and suppress the threat of fire will have direct benefits for community revitalization as well as protecting the natural resources so critical to rural lifestyle and economies in our state. Because 80% of rural businesses that are destroyed by fire are not rebuilt, it is critical to the economic stability of rural communities to be able to provide adequate service.

In preparation for this project, a detailed survey was sent to all 244 fire departments in N.H. The results of the survey established the basis for the needs assessment used in the preparation of this project proposal as well as other activities currently underway onto which this project, if funded, will build.

The N.H. Rural Fire Protection Task Force is already involved in writing and publishing a compendium of information on issues critical to rural communities wishing to improve their fire prevention and suppression capabilities. This compendium of information will be initially introduced in the Spring of 1995 at two regional seminars. In addition, a pilot cost sharing program will be instituted this year to provide modest financial incentives to communities wishing to undertake prevention and protection actions. The Rural Fire Protection Technical Team will help provide a degree of contact with communities not currently possible. The existence of the Team will allow timely and direct interaction with communities most interested in improving their fire protection services.

B. Project Design

Service Activities to be Performed

The objectives of this project will be reached by a New Hampshire Rural Fire Protection Technical Team. Team members will be recruited locally to insure appropriate experience, education and diversity. This Team will be comprised of a team coordinator/director, an information and education coordinator, a community planner and two civil engineers. The Team will receive administrative support from the RC&D Councils in N.H. These Councils are working in partnership with the New Hampshire Rural Fire Protection Task Force who will provide technical support, project guidance and priorities. Supervision of the Team will be provided by the North Country RC&D Projects Coordinator.

The duties of the team members are:

Coordinator/Director: Responsible for overall team administration, including developing a plan of work, scheduling, compiling comprehensive community plans, supervision of other specialists, etc.

Information and Education Coordinator: Overall marketing of the project through media, organizations and other appropriate opportunities. Develop training program and tools. Assist individual fire departments identify their fire prevention educational needs and implement an innovative strategy to meet them.

Community Planner: Interaction of community fire protection planning with other aspects of local government; specifically planning, zoning and economic development. Helps community collect

and interpret natural resources and community resource information as related to developing fire protection strategies.

Civil Engineers (2): To insure adherence to Natural Resources Conservation Service standards and specifications. To evaluate and design water withdrawal facilities as a part of comprehensive fire protection community plans. Provide technical assistance in installing planned improvements.

Team members will receive technical training that enables them to excel in their positions. The training will also be valuable in their future employment.

Individual fire departments and communities will be contacted on behalf of the Team by the New Hampshire Rural Fire Protection Task Force. Team services will be offered to help them prepare comprehensive rural fire protection and prevention plans. Every community has its unique features and its plan will be carefully tailored to meet the locally identified needs. At the same time we will encourage the development of mutual aid strategies to enhance regional fire protection capabilities.

Anticipated Results of this Project Include:

- 60 communities will have a comprehensive fire protection plan to improve the capability of the fire department.
- 60 communities will have a comprehensive fire prevention plan.
- 40 communities will have on-site technical assistance and properly installed non-pressure hydrants, cisterns and other water drafting facilities.
- 60 communities will have developed a plan and implement to obtain resources for improvements.
- 60 communities will have received training and developed strategies to identify what water is needed, what is available and how to move it to accomplish fire control.

Every community in New Hampshire would have the opportunity to request this assistance. They would be required to establish a local task force that works with the Technical Team to develop their plans and strategies.

This approach will be successful because local decision-makers are leading their own improvement initiatives. They are supported by a partnership that is recognized in New Hampshire as an authority in rural fire protection and community development.

C. Evaluation

The New Hampshire Rural Fire Protection Task Force will be responsible for overall evaluation of this project. Since this is reinventing how assistance is being provided to communities for

fire protection, the Task Force will constantly monitor and improve the delivery of services and evaluate success.

The long-term evaluation will be reduction in loss of lives and property, improved personal security and reduced costs for fire insurance. Short-term progress will be measured against the ten objectives outlined in this proposal.

The impact or benefit of this project will be measured by the numbers of communities involved, the numbers of fire prevention and protection plans developed and the number of water drafting sites installed.

Assistance will be directed towards communities with populations of less than 3,000 people. With 60 communities participating, we expect a minimum of 180,000 people will benefit from this program per year.

D. Sustainability, Innovation and Replicability

The Rural Fire Protection Technical Team will utilize grass roots participation to identify needs and develop rural fire protection plans for communities. This innovative approach will be a bottoms up initiative rather than the traditional top down method. Ownership on the part of local people will ensure maximum effectiveness of the program because it belongs to the community. We will also be encouraging communities and fire departments to think regionally to work together with surrounding fire departments to create well informed and smooth working partnerships.

In New Hampshire there is a constant effort by the fire fighters to improve. Training courses are sponsored by the New Hampshire Fire Chiefs Association on a regional basis; local mutual aid systems develop training programs and individual fire departments have their own training plans. This Rural Fire Protection Initiative will be incorporated into these existing programs. All fire departments in New Hampshire will be reached at the end of the three (3) year initiative.

This project will serve as a model that can be replicated in other states.

Annual Budget

	Funds Requested	Grantee Contributions	Total
1. Personnel			
A. Stipends			
\$12,000 X 5	\$60,000	- 0 -	\$60,000
B. Benefits			
\$3,500 X 5	17,500	- 0 -	17,500
C. Contract Services			
\$100/month		\$ 1,200	1,200
D. Training			
\$1,000 X 5		5,000	5,000
2. Non-Personnel			
A. Office	- 0 -	6,000	6,000
B. Telephone	- 0 -	800	800
C. Utilities	- 0 -	600	600
D. Equipment			
Computer	- 0 -	4,000	4,000
Survey equipment	- 0 -	3,000	3,000
Desk, chairs, etc.	- 0 -	1,000	1,000
Photo copier	- 0 -	2,000	2,000
Fax	- 0 -	1,200	1,200
E. Office Supplies	- 0 -	600	600
F. Educational materials	- 0 -	1,400	1,400
G. Printing	- 0 -	1,200	1,200
H. Travel			
Mileage 30,00 @.25/mile		7,500	7,500
Vehicles 3 @ \$10,000 each		30,000	30,000
Vehicle Maintenance	- 0 -	2,000	2,000
I. Other			
Publications		<u>200</u>	<u>200</u>
	<u>\$77,500</u>	<u>\$67,700</u>	<u>\$145,200</u>

USDA AMERICORPS PROJECT
New Hampshire Resource Revitalization Team
Natural Resources Conservation Service, NH

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES

Objective Components

What work will be done?

Participants will provide technical assistance, administrative support and coordination services to RC&D resource committees, cooperating agencies and organizations and project teams for the identification, implementation and completion of resource conservation and development actions such as assisting economic development organizations develop long range strategies for developing the wood products industry; helping communities initiate forestland resource evaluations; develop a "fee for hunting" industry in the state; help watershed regions conduct environmental protection/restoration projects; work with the regional tourism districts in New Hampshire to develop agro/forestry tourism; develop a flexible marketing network for the state's secondary wood product manufacturers.

What is the desired result?

Increased awareness, reliance and support for natural resource based industries; increased markets and jobs; enhanced rural economies; increased coordination among resource agencies and organizations; timely completion of statewide/regionwide resource conservation and development projects.

How will quality and impact of services be measured?

Numbers of individuals and organizations participating in a statewide resource revitalization assessment process; numbers of cooperative projects initiated; numbers and categories of projects initiated. Direct/indirect benefits of initiated project; performance evaluations of and by committees and project teams on their effectiveness as an organization.

What standards will gauge success?

200 agencies and organizations participating in assessment process. 30 projects initiated with at least 5 projects in each resource category (agriculture, forestry water, human/community). Businesses/jobs retained/created. Level of organization effectiveness.

How many individuals will benefit from the work performed?

200 agencies and organizations participating in the assessment process. All state residents and businesses that can benefit from the 30 projects initiated.

USDA AMERICORPS PROJECT
New Hampshire Rural Fire Protection Team
Natural Resources Conservation Service, NH

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES

Objective Components

What work will be done?

Provide technical and financial resources to local fire departments and community leaders for improved fire prevention and suppression through direct assistance in planning, implementation and education.

What is the desired result?

Increased intra and inter community capacity to reduce fire losses. Lowered community risk assessments.

How will quality and impact of services be measured?

Pre and post service evaluations of fire protection capabilities. Demand for team services.

What standards will gauge success?

60 rural fire departments will have created innovative fire prevention and protection plans. 40 communities will find new ways to carry out improvements. 20 communities will create and carry out comprehensive educational program.

How many individuals will benefit from the work performed?

60 rural fire departments and the residents of those 60 N.H. communities.

OBJ3.DOC

**CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL SERVICE
COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES
Objective 1**

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
Revitalization Team (5 Members - RDT)

SITE: New Hampshire

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS: Revitalize New Hampshire economic conditions through the use of natural resource industries.

-
- 1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?**
Will provide technical assistance, administrative support and coordination services to RC&D resource committees, cooperating agencies and organizations and project teams for the identification, implementation and completion of resource conservation and development actions such as assisting economic development organizations develop long range strategies for developing the wood products industry; helping communities initiate forestland resource evaluations; develop a "fee for hunting" industry in the state; help watershed regions conduct environmental protection/restoration projects; work with the regional tourism districts in New Hampshire to develop agro/forestry tourism; develop a flexible marketing network for the state's secondary wood product manufacturers.
 - 2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?**
Increased awareness, reliance & support for natural resource based industries; increased markets & jobs; enhanced rural economies; increased coordination among resource agencies and organizations; timely completion of statewide/regionwide resource conservation and development projects.
 - 3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?**
Numbers of individuals & organizations participating in a statewide resource revitalization assessment process; numbers of cooperative projects initiated, numbers & categories of projects initiated. Direct/indirect benefits of initiated project; performance evaluations of and by committees and project teams on their effectiveness as an organization.
 - 4. By what standard will you gauge success?**
200 agencies and organizations participating in assessment process. 30 projects initiated with at least 5 projects in each resource category (agriculture, forestry water, human/community). Businesses/jobs retained/created. Level of organization effectiveness.
 - 5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?**
200 agencies and organizations participating in the assessment process. All state residents and businesses that can benefit from the 30 projects initiated.

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL SERVICE
COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES
Objective 2

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
Dry Fire Hydrant Team (5 Members - RDT)

SITE: New Hampshire

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS: Revitalize New Hampshire economic conditions through the use of natural resource industries.

-
1. **What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?**
Provide technical & financial resources to local fire departments and community leaders for improved fire prevention & suppression through direct assistance in planning, implementation and education.
 2. **What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?**
Increased intra and inter community capacity to reduce fire losses. Lowered community risk assessments.
 3. **How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?**
Pre and post service evaluations of fire protection capabilities. Demand for team services.
 4. **By what standard will you gauge success?**
60 rural fire departments will have created innovative fire prevention and protection, plans. 40 communities will find new ways to carry out improvements. 20 communities will create and carry out comprehensive educational program.
 5. **How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?**
60 rural fire departments and the residents of those 60 N.H. communities.

NEW YORK, DOL

New York

SUMMARY PAGE

The Urban Resources Partnership is a new federal initiative designed to make government more effective and responsive to the environmental needs of urban communities. The Partnership combines the resources of six key federal natural resource agencies: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Forest Service, and Extension Service; USDOJ Fish and Wildlife Service, and National Park Service; and the Environmental Protection Agency. These six agencies are working collaboratively with local and state government agencies, private, non-profit and community organizations, and local citizens to develop programs and plans to protect, enhance, and rehabilitate critical urban environments.

The projects in this proposal respond to the need for improvement in the quality of, and access to, open spaces and natural areas in New York City, particularly for lower-income communities of color. Historical development patterns in New York, and the recent and ongoing reductions in the budgets for park restoration and maintenance have resulted in the steady deterioration of New York's already overburdened Park system. Although New York has several large wilderness-type ecosystems that could provide some relief, these areas have been subject to pollution from inappropriate uses, overdevelopment, and nonpoint source pollution, as well as from certain specific environmental catastrophes (e.g., an oil pipeline spill). Projects have been designed to work with local community groups to reclaim and restore public lands and natural habitats, and to work within underserved communities to enhance the local environment.

We are requesting ten NRCS Environmental Team numbers and two Rural Development team members in order to create one team dedicated to conducting environmental restoration and management projects, in two geographic areas of the City. The team will stay together for the year of service, and as a group, will rotate through a series of up to ten projects, ranging from a few days up to three months per project. This model serves to maximize the Corps members' exposure to a variety of high impact restoration projects, while ensuring broad based impact throughout the area of service. We have defined the area of service to include two diverse and sensitive ecosystems: Jamaica Bay and Staten Island.

In order to accomplish the goals of this program, we have developed a collaboration of entities that represent varied area of expertise that support the leadership role of NRCS: the Urban Resources Partnership (URP), Gateway National Recreation Area (National Parks Service), and many Community-based organizations. NRCS will be responsible for managing the AmeriCorps program. The direct supervision of

the Rural Development Corps members, and the overall supervision of the Environmental Corps members' activities. URP will play an active role in soliciting and selecting appropriate projects, will be actively involved as technical consultants to the projects, and will provide environmental training and education for participating Corps members. Gateway, a local Federal partner in the Urban Resources Partnership, will play a key role in developing and overseeing projects at their locations, and will help to provide the necessary context for the community based projects by serving as a destination for field trips for community residents organized by the Corps members. Community-based organizations will be actively involved in developing, overseeing, and evaluating the impact of their sponsored projects and will help to involve community residents in the Corps members' work. The Urban Resources Partnership will contract with a local youth serving organization to assist in the recruitment and training of Corps members, and to assist in the logistical coordination of the project rotations.

3. MISSION AND OBJECTIVES

A) *Mission Statement:*

TO FOSTER COMMUNITY BASED AND ECOSYSTEM APPROACHES TO ENHANCE THE NEW YORK CITY ENVIRONMENT THROUGH A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN FEDERAL NATURAL RESOURCE AGENCIES, AMERICORPS MEMBERS, AND COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS.

B) *Objectives:*

(1) To revitalize 8-10 community neighborhoods by enhancing the quality of, and improving access to open space and natural resources through projects such as vacant lot improvement, tree planting and care, and greenway and bicycle trail development and improvement.

(2) To protect 30 Miles of natural shoreline ecosystem habitats surrounding significant coastal wetlands.

(3) To enhance the capacity of AmeriCorps members working in collaboration with community-based organizations to understand, effect change, and evaluate the impact of their actions on the environment in two New York City ecosystems.

4. NARRATIVE

A) NEEDS TO BE MET AND APPROPRIATENESS FOR NATIONAL SERVICE

Needs:

Natural vegetation and open spaces in urban areas have several well documented benefits: they reduce human stress levels; enhance the attractiveness of urban environments; improve air and water quality and moderate urban climate; and provide opportunities for urban residents to experience nature in the City. Well maintained urban open spaces have been shown to be correlated with reduced crime levels, increased property values and community stability. and an increase in the overall quality of life of residents.

Nevertheless, two independent factors have combined to limit the potential beneficial impact of urban open spaces to residents of our nation's largest City -- New York (NYC). First, it has been documented that, due largely to historical patterns, NYC residents with the lowest per capita incomes (a group which is disproportionately comprised of people of color) are more likely to live in community districts with the lowest amount of parkland per capita. These residents have the greatest need for urban open space, since they often lack the resources to visit natural areas outside their neighborhoods and City. Second, the ongoing fiscal crisis in NYC has resulted in continuing reductions in the budget for park restoration and maintenance. Since lower income communities tend to have the lowest amount of parkland per capita, the facilities they do have tend to be among the most highly utilized and over-utilized in the City. Such facilities suffer the most from reductions in the budgets for maintenance, security, and recreational programs, which have made these places unattractive, inaccessible, and unsafe.

Yet by virtue of its geography, New York has several large wilderness-type ecosystems that could provide relief to the communities most in need of access to open space, some of which are directly adjacent to the natural areas. For example, the Gateway National Recreation Area, located in three of NYC's five boroughs, "ranks among the National Park Service's most popular recreation spots" NY Times, 1992). Gateway includes the 16,000 acre Jamaica Bay, which is one of the most urbanized waterways in the world, but which also is home to a wildlife refuge, wetlands, and a great diversity of plant and animal life. Substantial portions of Gateway and Jamaica Bay also border on some of the communities most in need of increased urban open space. However, most visitors exclusively visit Jacob Riis Beach in the summer, without ever visiting these other natural areas.

The Urban Resources Partnership (URP) is a coalition of six Federal Agencies. USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Forest Service, and Extension Service; USDOI Fish and Wildlife Service and National Park Service; and the Environmental Protection Agency. URP was designed to

mobilize Federal resources to respond to the unmet environmental needs of local communities. URP strives to work in partnership with Federal, State, and local government agencies, non-profit and community-based organizations, and local citizens to develop sustainable programs to protect, enhance and rehabilitate critical urban environments and distressed communities. In response to the open space and natural resource needs in NYC, URP/NYC proposes to design and implement a unique community-based program to engage young adults, supported by NRCS and AmeriCorps, in hands-on urban environmental restoration efforts in two of New York's most significant, yet endangered ecosystems: Jamaica Bay, and the Staten Island shore and salt marshes.

Our proposed program provides a unique model for capitalizing on the potential synergy's from several Federal programs working together with local partners. The national service team would collaborate with local community-based organizations, City agencies, and the Federal partners of URP on projects that would conserve and restore public lands and natural resources/habitats, revitalize neighborhoods by creating and maintaining recreation areas, green spaces, and community gardens, and reduce environmental risks through education and cleanup. Critical to the program's design and execution is URP's ecosystem approach, under which the wilderness area and surrounding communities will be viewed holistically. While many other environmental programs generally focus on a single area/issue (e.g., street trees, wetlands, greenways, vacant lots, etc.) the URP national service project aims to consolidate efforts to attack multiple interrelated problems within one ecosystem area. For example, Jamaica Bay is plagued by nonpoint source pollution (NPSP), particularly urban runoff from human activity. The URP AmeriCorps team will engage in restoration efforts along Jamaica Bay, but will also be well-positioned to educate local community residents of the impact of NPSP on Jamaica Bay, and to help them design programs in their communities to mitigate this problem.

The proposed program would take place both within several historically underserved communities and a larger natural habitat within close proximity. In this way, the AmeriCorps team may: (1) gain appreciation of the natural environment through active environmental restoration efforts and management activities; (2) gain an understanding, by utilizing an ecosystem approach, of the interrelationship between human activity in their neighborhoods and its impact on the environment at large; and (3) become involved in community revitalization efforts and education projects with peers and local resident to promote active environmental stewardship and "sustainable communities'.

For these reasons, we believe the program is particularly

well-suited to the AmeriCorps national service concept. In addition, by utilizing young adults supported by AmeriCorps, the program will enable us to reach a diverse group of NYC youth, including those having the greatest socioeconomic needs: poverty, unemployment, inadequate education, crime, and drug abuse. The youth unemployment rate in NYC stands at 36.4%, nearly twice the national average (19.9%). According to the Census, of dropouts aged 16-19, only 28% have jobs while only 17% more are looking for work but are still unemployed. Young people confronted with employment barriers and violence experience a sense of powerlessness, have low self-esteem, and often lack contact with adults who can guide them during this critical phase of their development. National service in general can marshal the resources and talents that benefit the young, the old, and society at large, as well as provide an opportunity for youth from different socioeconomic and educational backgrounds to interact. The URP program in particular will provide all participants with the opportunity to engage in environmental education, gain practical work experience, and introduce them to possible environmental careers that will begin the longer term process of achieving environmental justice in their communities..

Process:

Since its inception one year ago, the Urban Resources Partnership has been working to identify critical environmental needs throughout the City. URP's strategy has been and will continue to be to consult with local government officials, non-profit and community-based organizations, and local residents to learn about current activities and to determine the niche to be filled by this collaboration of federal government natural resource agencies. At a series of meetings with local government officials held in Spring 1994, Jamaica Bay was named by many as one of the most significant local natural resources for URP to focus on. Similarly, the fragile ecosystem of Staten Island has been the focus of much of the restoration work by the Natural Resources Group of the New York City Parks Dept., which has requested assistance from the Partnership. Concern for these two ecosystems is further supported by the Water Quality Coordinating Committee of the New York City Soil and Water Conservation District. The Committee has designated nonpoint source pollution of New York City's wetlands and water bodies as priority issues, and has requested program support from URP. In addition, the need for jobs and job training for young people has been expressed as a priority by residents at community roundtables conducted recently by Cornell Cooperative Extension-NYC in both Far Rockaway (which borders on the Jamaica Bay), and Staten Island.

NYC has a formal annual process, called the "Community

District Needs" statements, by which community concerns and program priorities are presented by each of the City's 59 community districts to the City administration. We have reviewed these reports and learned that each year, many community districts express dissatisfaction about the lack of open space and recreational opportunities, and the condition of neighborhood parks and street trees. In addition, low income communities site the overabundance of vacant lots as a priority problem to be addressed. In a recent report, one Brooklyn community district bordering on Jamaica Bay wrote: "the water pollution of Jamaica Bay must be given close attention" in that it is a local recreational and natural resource." Similarly, Staten Island community districts repeatedly express concern over the petrochemical pollution of their water and shoreline. They also place a high priority on the development of access to the waterfront for pedestrians and bicyclists, and the completion of a planned greenway.

All of these sources have helped us to define the macro level needs to be addressed by this program. Our local Federal partners, Gateway National Recreation Area, has assisted in identifying more localized needs by suggesting community-based organizations (CBOs) as sponsors of projects that reflect their respective community's concerns. Since these organizations generally evolve from the communities in which they are based and therefore reflect local residents' concerns and needs, each CBO has its own particular process of assessing need. We have begun to tap into this vast resource of CBOs in order to develop the specific service activities for this application. If we are designated as an AmeriCorps program, we will continue to work with Gateway's community outreach office, as well as the Water Quality Coordinating Committee (WQCC) and the Citizens Committee of New York City to identify additional local groups in the target communities to further refine our scope of work and project definitions. The WQCC will help to identify appropriate nonpoint source pollution prevention projects and project sponsors. In addition, the Citizens Committee has a data base of over 20,000 grass roots organizations city wide, and has offered to assist us in outreach to targeted communities in these ecosystems.

B) DESIGN

Concept:

For the delivery of this AmeriCorps program, the NRCS NYC Urban Programs Manager (and URP/NYC Steering Committee member), Jack Bricker, will be responsible for the overall management of the program and supervision of the Corps members activities. He will be supported by the members of the Urban Resources Partnership, as well as a contracted local partner who will provide additional support.

We are requesting ten NRCS Environmental Team members and two Rural Development Corps members (one to service as a team leader, and one to serve as a project planner) in order to create one team dedicated to conducting environmental restoration and management projects in two geographic areas of the City. The team will stay together for the year of service, and as a group, will rotate through a series of up to ten projects, ranging from a few days up to three months per project. This model serves to maximize the Corps members' exposure to a variety of high impact restoration projects, while ensuring broad based impact throughout the area of service.

We have defined the area of service as two diverse and sensitive ecosystems: Jamaica Bay and Staten Island. By defining the area of service as an ecosystem, rather than restricting their activities to one community, Corps members will gain an appreciation for the interrelationship between human activity in their communities and its impact on proximate natural areas. For example, for the Jamaica Bay Ecosystem, Corps members will work on projects both at the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, and in the half dozen communities that ring the Bay.

In order to accomplish the goals of this program, we have developed a collaboration of entities that represent varied areas of expertise that will support the leadership role of NRCS: the Urban Resources Partnership (URP), Gateway National Recreation Area (National Park Service), and many community-based organizations.

NRCS will be responsible for managing the AmeriCorps program and supervising Corps members' activities. This includes supervising the two Rural Development Corps members, establishing project rotations, conducting weekly site visits, and participating in in-service training programs.

URP will play an active role in soliciting and selecting appropriate field projects within the two targeted ecosystems. During the implementation phase, staff from the six federal agencies that comprise the Urban Resources Partnership will be actively involved as technical consultants to the projects and will provide environmental training and education for participating Corps members.

Gateway is comprised of numerous sites in and around the Jamaica Bay in Brooklyn and Queens, and along the eastern shore of Staten Island. As a local Federal partner in the Urban Resources Partnership, Gateway will play a key role in developing and overseeing projects at their locations, and will help to provide the necessary context for the community based projects by serving as a destination for field trips for community residents organized by the Corps members. Gateway will also be the site for the initial team training

and subsequent team-building exercises.

Community-based organizations will help to assess community needs, be actively involved in developing, overseeing, and evaluating the impact of their sponsored projects, and will help to involve community residents in the Corps members' work.

In addition to the above partners, URP will contract with a local youth-serving organization to assist the NRCS project manager with Corps member recruitment/applicant screening, team-building/in-service training, and project planning. In addition, they will assist in the recruitment, training and daily supervision of the two Rural Development Corps members.

Service Activities

Corps members will perform service full-time, four days each week, and on the fifth day will participate in in-service training. During nine months out of the year, Corps members will work outdoors on high impact restoration projects. During the winter months, members will conduct environmental education sessions at schools located in the target communities within the two ecosystems. URP program criteria will be used to select appropriate service projects, which include the following: 1) projects must meet a locally stated priority and have a long term impact on the community's quality of life and natural environment; 2) projects taken together must represent geographic, ethno-cultural, and natural resource diversity; and 3) projects must build local capacity and engender community commitment to insuring sustainability beyond the term of the specific URP sponsored projects.

What follows is a partial listing of the kinds of environmental restoration projects and sponsoring organizations that will host the AmeriCorps members. These projects are representative of the types of service activities the Corps members will be involved in over the course of the year.

Jamaica Bay

Service activities will take place both at the Gateway National Recreation Area sites in Brooklyn and Queens, and in the communities in the watershed. The following organizations have agreed to host the AmeriCorps team and to oversee the restoration projects described.

Gateway National Recreation Area at Jamaica Bay is comprised of 1,454 acres, including 800 acres of natural areas made up of grasslands, fishing areas, public campgrounds, and community gardens. The park sites include many locations in

both Brooklyn and Queens, including Floyd Bennett Field, Plumb Beach, Shore Parkway/Canarsic Pier, Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, Fort Tilden/Breezy Point, and the most popular destination in the summer, Jacob Riis (beach) Park. While these areas are incredibly diverse and present a multitude of natural habitats and recreational opportunities, fiscal and staffing constraints have resulted in the need for extensive management and restoration work throughout the park. AmeriCorps members will work under the supervision of park supervisors on trail maintenance projects such as cutting back overgrown brush, and placing woodchips and sign posts along the trails. Corps members will also blaze new trails. in some cases to steer visitors away from some sensitive ecological areas, and in others, to provide access to wildlife viewing areas. Corps members will also work to remove the blighted black pines and engage in revegetation programs utilizing native trees and shrubs. Participation in the annual beach cleanups will help members to understand the connection between nonpoint source pollution from the communities and its impact on beaches.

New Perspectives Development Corp. is a nonprofit local development corporation that works with community youth centers and senior centers on neighborhood enhancement projects. Corps members will work on a variety of projects designed to engender a stronger sense of community stewardship through local park and trail maintenance projects and beach cleanups. They will also work on some inter-generational projects including grounds enhancement projects at senior centers. Corps members will assist in community-wide vacant lot reclamation projects by planting shrubs, trees and vegetables. and assisting in the development of community gardens.

NYC Audubon Society (NYCAS), an independently incorporated chapter of the National Audubon Society, plays a critical role in protecting habitats and promoting awareness of wildlife in NYC. AmeriCorps members will supplement the ongoing efforts of the NYCAS' primarily volunteer-run Jamaica Bay Coastal Habitat Restoration Project, which seeks to reverse the negative impact past industrial and residential uses have had on the Bay's ecosystem. Corps members will be assigned to work at two public wildlife sanctuaries managed by NYCAS: Dubos Point Wetlands Sanctuary, and Bayswater Point State Park. Corps members will participate in restoration work, which includes debris removal, selected enhancement of natural restoration process, and monitoring through scientific study. In addition, they will learn and utilize natural resource inventory techniques in order to assist researchers in collecting scientific data. Corps members will also play a key role in conducting outreach efforts to local communities and school children to promote public awareness of the restoration project and access to the sites.

Metro Greenways Council (MGC) developed the original plan for a 350 mile citywide greenway, most of which has yet to be implemented. In addition to advocating for the completion of the Metropolitan Greenway System, Council members monitor greenway conditions, and promote greenway activities through leading walks and rides. Under the guidance of MGC, Corps members will work on improving the condition of existing segments of the Rockaway/Gateway Greenway, and will develop and build interim segments, including links to the adjacent communities. Service activities include marking existing trails, clearing brush and trash, laying woodchips or crushed stone to inhibit re-growth of tall grass. The completion of this project will permit residents in the communities surrounding Jamaica Bay easier access to the Gateway sites (Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, Floyd Bennett Field, Riis Park. and Fort Tilden).

Staten Island

Service activities will take place both at the Gateway National Recreation Area sites along the Atlantic shore of the island, in the salt marshes on the northern shore, in the communities surrounding these sites, and in the communities through which the greenways pass. The following organizations have agreed to host the AmeriCorps team and to oversee the restoration projects described.

Gateway National Recreation Area in Staten Island is comprised of 1,104 acres of land and water including Miller Field, Great Kills Park, Hoffman Island, Swinburne Island, and Historic Fort Wadsworth, which was recently added to the Gateway portfolio in 1994 after the base was closed by the federal government. Corps members will focus their work at Fort Wadsworth, where they will be involved in a variety of service activities designed to restore the historic quality of the facility, and to develop the site into a local cultural and environmental resource. Service activities include developing a trail network, and planting trees and shrubs to attract the public to the site.

Neighborhood Open Space Coalition (NOSC) is a non-profit working partnership of member organizations dedicated to community participation in preserving and enhancing New York City's open spaces. NOSC is the lead organization promoting the development of the North Shore Railroad Corridor project, which will transform an abandoned railroad right-of-way into a greenway with foot trails and bicycle paths. Corps members will work to develop an interim trail corridor within the main right-of-way, and will develop new trails connecting segments of the rail corridor. Service activities will include clearing brush and trimming back overgrowth on the trail. as well as planting trees and shrubs along side the trail where necessary. Corps members will be trained to lead walks through this natural area,

introducing residents and visitors to this unique adaptive use of an abandoned railroad right-of-way.

Protectors of Pine Oak Woods (PPOW) is a community-based environmental organization working to preserve the remaining natural areas of Staten Island through a variety of conservation activities. Corps members will work to develop the planned Staten Island Greenbelt through trail restoration and maintenance projects. Service activities will include clearing brush, and trimming back overgrowth on the trails. Corps members will also assist to place signs to clearly mark the trail. Maintenance and restoration work will be included along this overutilized hiking trail area.

Salt Marsh Restoration Group (SMRG) was formed after a 1990 spill from an oil refinery pipeline destroyed 12 acres of marsh and damaged the ecosystem of the 10 other acres of marsh on the west shore of Staten Island. SMRG works to restore and prevent future damage through labor-intensive clean-up and planting, research and evaluation of salt marsh ecosystems, and advocacy. Corps members will assist in SMRG's Old Place Creek Marsh Site project, where SMRG is developing data baselines and monitoring the growth of grass and the recruitment of marsh organisms back into the grasses. After completing a series of educational workshops conducted by SMRG staff, Corps members will compile data to supplement the study and engage in actual restoration projects. Other service activities will include planting *Spartina*, a salt marsh cordgrass, to stabilize the fragile sediment in the marsh and replace vegetation that was lost in the spill. With the help of Corps members, SMRG aims to plant 60,000 cords covering 100,000 square feet during the Spring planting season, in order to insure stable growth by the start of the following cold season.

Relation to Need

Through the proposed service projects, AmeriCorps members will address critical environmental needs through natural resource management and restoration, and community enhancement projects. Trail restoration projects will facilitate access to existing natural areas. Wetlands restoration projects will help to stem, or reverse, recent trends of wetlands degradation and help to restore critical wetlands. Community education projects will help to make residents aware of the impact of their actions on the larger ecosystems of which they are part, and community greening projects will improve local environment and quality of life in these neighborhoods. In addition, through exposure to environmental issues and natural area and interaction with experts the AmeriCorps youth may become more interested in pursuing environmental careers but will in any event return to their communities with an increased awareness of environmental stewardship that they will share with friends

and family.

Participant Training and Support

There are various components to the Corps members' training, support, education, and service learning. These components will take place both formally and informally before, during and after the service activities. The first element of member training will occur at the very start of the year of service, when all of the URP team members will participate in a six day residential training program at Gateway National Park. The Urban Resources Partnership will contract with a local youth-serving organization experienced in preparing youth for community service work. At Gateway, they will learn communication and team building skills, in addition to learning wilderness survival and outdoor skills that will prepare them for their year of service.

Orientation week is just the first component of the overall training program which will continue throughout the year. Once service activities begin, Fridays will be dedicated to in-service training activities and work-shops, lead by the team leader. Service learning workshops will enable Corps members to explore issues relating to their field service. These workshops may include reading and writing assignments related to the prior week's service activity, giving Corps members a broader perspective on their field work. Fridays may also include environmental field trips, or presentations by local area environmental professionals. Throughout the year, Corps members who have not completed high school will be encouraged to attend GED courses.

Each project will be sponsored by a community-based organization that will be responsible for teaching the Corps members the skills necessary to complete their service activity. Each CBO will provide an orientation and specific skills training for the team. In addition, the project work will provide the Corps members with an extensive amount of service learning opportunities by exposing them to a wide variety of environmental issues. This will include both hands-on work under the guidance of environmental professionals, as well as exposure to other professionals working at the sites.

The participation of the URP federal partners will further enhance the service learning component of this program. Representatives from the six Federal agencies that comprise URP will conduct educational workshops throughout the year, both at the project sites, at Friday in-service workshops, and on special field trips. Workshops and lectures will address the urban ecological topics Corps members are engaged in, as well as include environmental career sessions to encourage urban youth to pursue careers in environmental disciplines. The environmental education facilities at

Gateway will also be available throughout the year to provide mid-year-training focused on natural resource issues.

Participant Recruitment, Placement, and Supervision

The Urban Resource Partnership will contract with a local youth-serving organization to assist in recruitment and applicant screening. To recruit Corps members, we will utilize a variety of strategies, including placing ads in community newspapers, obtaining referrals by individuals and organizations, and conducting outreach to several of the specialized high schools in NYC, including the High School of Environmental Science. For the two Rural Development Corps members, we will target our recruitment efforts at area colleges with programs in environmental science in order to recruit individuals with a background and interest in environmental issues.

We will seek to form a team comprised of young people ages 17-25 from diverse backgrounds and education levels. Criteria used in selection will include: interest and/or experience in environmental issues, dedication to the concept of national service, willingness and ability to work on a team, and ability to confront challenges. During the recruitment process, priority will also be placed on collaborating with community-based organizations to recruit candidates from neighborhoods surrounding Jamaica Bay and Staten Island.

As described in the "Concept" section, the ten Environmental Team members will form one team who will remain together for the year, and as a team, will rotate through a series of projects. A Rural Development Corps member, reporting to the NRCS project manager, will serve as the field supervisor/crew leader for the Environmental Team. The crew leader will work with the team on a daily basis throughout the year to provide direct supervision and overall support to the team members. The crew leader will work alongside the team beginning at orientation week, and then at each project site over the course of the year. The crew leader will also monitor attendance, work performance and team related issues, and plays a key role as the link between the team and the project sponsor. Staff from the sponsoring organizations will provide additional on-site training, supervision and support.

Project assignments will be scheduled by the second Rural Development Corps member who will work as an environmental planner under the supervision of the NRCS project manager, and in consultation with URP staff and partners. In addition, the Urban Resources Partnership will contract with a local youth-serving organization to assist in the logistical coordination of scheduling project rotations.

The Rural Development Corps member, the consultant, NRCS, and URP will work in partnership with sponsors to coordinate all service projects. Advance planning will ensure that the team has sufficient project-related training, tools and equipment to deliver service safely and effectively. Although many of the sponsors have worked with youth before, staff will ensure that sponsors are oriented with AmeriCorps mission and goals.

NEW YORK

TITLE PAGE:

A. Title of Project:	New York Urban Project
B. Name of Organization:	U.S. Department of Agriculture, NRCS
C. Team Type:	Both
D. State of Duty Station:	New York
E. County of Duty Station:	New York
F. Names of counties served	Queens, Kings, Richmond
G. Congressional District:	12, 6, 13
H. Name of Site Supervisor:	John Bricker
I. Address, phone & fax numbers:	290 Broadway - 25th Fl New York, NY 1007 Ph: (212) 637-3710 FAX: (212) 637-3772
J. Name of St Project Director:	John Whitney
K. Address, phone & fax numbers:	50 Commerce Way East Aurora, NY 14052 Ph: (716) 652-8480 FAX: (716) 652-8506
L. Number of Members in PL&E:	10
M. Number of Members in RDT:	2

NEW YORK

TITLE PAGE:

A. Title of Project:	GIS Supported Community Planning & Resource Protection
B: Name of Organization:	U.S. Department of Agriculture, NRCS
C. Team Type:	RDT
D. State of Duty Station:	New York
E. County of Duty Station:	Erie
F. Names of counties served	Erie, Niagra, Seneca Nations of Indians
G. Congressional District:	30
H. Name of Site Supervisor:	John Whitney
I: Address, phone & fax numbers:	50 Commerce Way East Aurora, NY 14052 Ph: (716) 652-8480 FAX: (716) 652-8506
J: Name of St Project Director:	John Whitney
K. Address, phone & fax numbers:	50 Commerce Way East Aurora, NY 14052 Ph: (716) 652-8480 FAX: (716) 652-8506
L. Number of Members in PL&E:	0
M. Number of Members in RDT:	5

APP 1.1 . DOC

MINNESOTA RIVER BASIN

AMERICORPS PROJECT

minnesota

USDA-NRCS
Ronald G. Hardesty
209 W. Mulberry Street
St. Peter, MN 56082

(507) 931-2530

SUMMARY PAGE

NEEDS TO BE MET:

More trees than normal have fallen into the rivers in southern Minnesota due to the floods of 1993 and tornadoes, causing flood damage along all major tributaries in the Blue Earth River Basin in Waseca County, Martin County, Watonwan County, Faribault County, and Blue Earth County.

The dead trees float down the rivers eventually developing into log jams at critical locations in the rivers. These log jams, (dams), may cause overland flow outside the main channel or plug culverts and/or bridges. The log jams create public safety hazards due to flooding and pressures on the bridges over the rivers.

The overland flow carries high sediment and nutrient/pesticide loads from the intensively cropped acres into the Minnesota River adding to the already poor water quality of the river.

There are many old small depositories for debris located along the tributaries. These deposits contribute to poor water quality as well as resulting in poor visual esthetics.

The main objective of the project is to remove dead trees and debris from the rivers in an effort to prevent some flooding which in turn would improve water quality, the esthetics of the river, and improve public safety.

KEY ELEMENTS OF THE SITE DESIGN:

The project team will operate with the five Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD,s), Blue Earth River Basin Initiative (BERBI), and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to develop a work plan. The daily work site supervision will be accomplished by a Rural Development Corps Member.

THE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS:

A team consisting of five Environmental Corps . Members supervised by one Rural Development corps Member.

DESCRIPTION OF ADMINISTERING ORGANIZATION AND IDENTIFICATION OF PRIMARY PROGRAM PARTNERS:

NRCS will be the administering organization and also provide office supplies, coordinate training/education, and safety equipment.

The partners are:

1. Blue Earth River Basin Initiative
2. Blue Earth County SWCD
3. Faribault County SWCD
4. Martin County SWCD
5. Waseca County SWCD
6. Watonwan County SWCD

III. MISSION

To assist the residents of Blue Earth County, Faribault County, Martin County, Waseca County, and Watonwan County to rehabilitate river systems, improve water quality, and insure public safety.

OBJECTIVES

1. Remove 15 miles of fallen trees from the Blue Earth River and its tributaries, to prevent flood damage to private land and public facilities/roads. This removal will improve the quality of the water entering the Minnesota River.
2. Remove 15 miles of litter (old tires, debris, etc.), from the Blue Earth River and its tributaries to improve the quality and esthetics of the river and of the water entering the Minnesota River.
3. Enhance 15 miles of habitat for wildlife by creating shelters from organic debris removed from the river systems resulting in enhanced wildlife cover and increased populations of wildlife,

IV. NARRATIVE

- a. What specific needs will the program address and how will these needs be met?

Trees killed by the floods of 1993 and tornadoes are now causing flood damage in southern Minnesota.

The dead trees float down the rivers eventually developing into log jams at critical locations in the rivers. These log jams, (dams), may cause overland flow outside the main channel or plug culverts or bridges. This problem will continue unless trees are removed.

The overland flow carries high sediment and nutrient/pesticide loads from intensively cropped acres into the Minnesota River; thereby, degrading water quality.

The loss of the trees in the river systems also creates a loss of habitat for our wildlife. It is a goal to utilize these dead trees to create additional habitat for the areas wildlife,

The Blue Earth SWCD, Faribault SWCD, Martin SWCD, Waseca

SWCD, Watonwan County SWCD, the policy committee of BERBI, and the NRCS all assisted in identifying this need.

The BERBI Joint Powers Board will take the lead role in this project. The Board consists Of a representative from each of the five listed SWCD'S. It will provide project direction.

Waseca SWCD and Martin SWCD will provide office space and technical assistance.

NRCS will provide office supplies, coordinate training/education, program administration, and some safety equipment.

b. DESIGN

Concept

A team consisting of five Environmental Corps Members supervised by one Rural Development Corps Member headquartered in Waseca Minnesota. This team will get their direction from NRCS and the BERBI Board.

Service Activities - (typical day)

Meet at the office at 8 a.m. Go to a selected site utilizing proper equipment to remove dead trees from the river channel. Most of the debris removal will be done during the winter months (November-March). Members will be using chain saws and hand saws to cut trees and then manually hauling/dragging this debris to adjacent areas. Mechanized equipment may also be utilized. During the summer months (April-October) members will remove debris and create wildlife habitat. They will return back to their home site around 5 p.m.

Participant Training and Support

The NRCS will take the lead role to identify and schedule any training (safety, first aid, CPR, defensive driving, AIDS, cultural awareness) that members will receive. The BERBI and Corps Members will provide input on prioritizing timing of training.

Local organizations/agencies/individuals will be utilized to conduct training whenever possible. Weekly meetings will be held with members of the team and supervisors.

Participant Placement and Supervision

Members will be placed on one or two teams. The Rural Development Member will be the work-site supervisor.

Evaluation/Quality

The BERBI Policy Board and team members will jointly evaluate and monitor work programs for both quantity and quality. They will work together to set monthly goals and standards.

Civic Activities

A monthly Community service activity will include doing a project related to environment. Communities will benefit from a specific, locally determined group activities.

RIVER BEAUTIFICATION AND
FLOOD CONTROL PROJECT

USDA- NRCS
David F. Rose
P.O. Box 74, 105 S. Division St.
Warren, MN 56762
(218) 745-4351

SUMMARY PAGE

NEEDS TO BE MET:

American Elm trees killed by Dutch Elm disease are now causing flood damage along the Middle River and Tamarac River in Marshall County, and the Snake River which flows through both Marshall and Polk County.

The main problem is that the dead trees fall into and then float down the rivers, creating log jams at certain points along the way, taking on all the characteristics of a dam. These log jams plug culverts and bridges causing major damage to the road systems. It also results in overland flow outside the main channel and causes erosion problems on public and private property. These problems will continue to increase for many years as more dead elms decay and fall into the river channels.

Our main objective is to remove the dead elm trees from the river channels and also those standing dead trees that have the potential to fall into the river.

We will plant new trees along this work zone to reforest those areas devastated by the Dutch Elm disease. Shrubs could also be considered for river bank stabilization in some sections.

The loss of the elms (floating down stream) in the river systems also creates a loss of habit for our wildlife. Therefore, we would like to salvage/utilize these dead trees to create "Cabins for Critters" to enhance habitat options for the area's wildlife.

There is approximately 170 miles of river in this project area. We estimate approximately 50% or 85 miles will be where most of the work needs to be done.

KEY ELEMENTS OF THE SITE DESIGN:

The project team will cooperate with a strategic Project Board. The Project Board will consist of representatives from each of the partners. The daily work site supervision will be accomplished by a Rural Development Corps Member.

THE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS:

A team consisting of eight (8) Environmental Corps Members supervised by one (1) Rural Development Corps Member.

DESCRIPTION OF ADMINISTERING ORGANIZATION AND IDENTIFICATION OF PRIMARY PROGRAM PARTNERS:

The Natural Resources Conservation Service will be the administering organization.. They will also provide office supplies, equipment (safety/computers), and coordinate training/education.

The partners are:

1. The Middle River/Snake River Watershed District will be providing a minimum of \$10,000 in cash for the project.
2. Marshall County will provide office space, phone, and transportation.
3. The Marshall County Soil & Water Conservation District will provide office supplies, technical assistance for tree planting phase, and public relations with the media and landowners.

MISSION:

The mission of this project is to assist the residents of Marshall and Northwest Polk Counties to rehabilitate riparian corridors, enhance wildlife habitat, improve water quality and insure public safety.

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES:

1. Remove debris (dead elm trees) from the 3 major river systems to prevent flood damage to private land and public facilities/roads which will help improve water quality.

Work to be done: Remove debris from the 3 major river systems with a goal of 25 miles the 1st year.

Result of activities: Reduce potential for flood damage to both private and public property, thus improving water quality.

Quality: Improve stream flow and reduction of debris in channels.

Success: 70% reduction in log jams at bridges and culverts. 50% less water erosion on private property located adjacent to river systems.

Benefiting area: All the residents of Marshall and Northwest Polk Counties.

2. Enhance habitat for wildlife by creating "Cabins for Critters" using the debris removed from the river system.

Work to be done: Take debris and make wildlife shelters (Cabins for Critters) on areas adjacent to the river systems. Goal the 1st year is to do this along the 25 miles of river system that has had the debris removed.

Result: More shelter for birds/animals.

Quality: Construction will meet wildlife habitat standards from either the Natural Resources

Conservation Service, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources or the US Fish/Wildlife Service.

Success: Enhance availability of wildlife cover and therefore decrease the potential for winter loss in bird and animal populations by 10%.

Benefiting area: All residents of Marshall and Northwest Polk Counties.

3. Plant trees/shrubs in identified areas along the 3 river systems where Dutch Elm disease has devastated the American Elm trees.

Work to be done: The goal the first year is to plant trees/shrubs along 25 miles of the river system.

Result: Reforestation of riparian areas along river system.

Quality: Successful establishment of trees/shrubs.

Success: 75% survival rate of newly planted trees/shrubs.

Benefiting area: All residents of Marshall and Northwest Polk Counties; especially those living along these sections of the river systems.

COMMUNITY BUILDING OBJECTIVE:

1. Foster an ethic of Community Service.

Activities: Conduct a "Clean-up Day" at each city park in Marshall County.

Result: 500 additional hours of volunteer service from other organizations (partners).

Measure Quality: Survey the partners and cities involved

Standard of Success: 500 additional hours of volunteer service met or exceeded; 100% of cities were satisfied with the service provided.

PARTICIPANT DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE:

1. Create an environment for members to have a positive learning experience.

Activities: Training in team building, safety methods,

1st aid, public speaking and value of diversity.

Result: AmeriCorps members learn and understand the value of working together as a team; create an awareness on the importance of safety, no matter what type of activity; learn to administer basic 1st aid and CPR methods; members experience the necessity of clear communication with individuals, groups and organizations in carrying out their project objectives; members accept others for what they are and utilize the strengths to complete their projects.

Measure Quality: Successful completion of training courses, ability to work together as 1 group.

Standard of Success: Accident-free work sites; favorable comments from partners on actions of members; retention of 100% of members in program.

A. NARRATIVE

Needs

American Elm trees killed by Dutch Elm disease are now causing flood damage along the Middle River and Tamarac River in Marshall County, and the Snake River which flows through both Marshall and Polk County.

The main problem is that the dead trees fall into and then float down the rivers, creating log jams at certain points along the way, taking on all the characteristics of a dam. These log jams plug culverts and bridges causing major damage to the road systems. It also results in overland flow outside the main channel and causes erosion problems on public and private property. These problems will continue to increase for many years as more dead elms decay and fall into the river channels.

Our main objective is to remove the dead elm trees from the river channels and also those standing dead trees that have the potential to fall into the river.

We will plant new trees along this work zone to reforest those areas devastated by the Dutch Elm disease. Shrubs could also be considered for river bank stabilization in some sections.

The loss of the elms (floating down stream) in the river systems also creates a loss of habit for our wildlife. Therefore, we would like to salvage/utilize these dead trees to create "Cabins for Critters" to enhance habitat options for the area's wildlife.

There is approximately 170 miles of river in this project area. We estimate approximately 50% or 85 miles will be where most of the work needs to be done.

Process

The Marshall County Soil & Water Conservation District, the Middle River/Snake River Watershed District, Marshall County and the Natural Resources Conservation Service all assisted in identifying this need. After the flood in 1993, local residents requested help from the Watershed District. An inventory was completed by the above organizations to identify problems and possible solutions.

A Project Board will be formed that includes a representative from each of the following organizations to provide project direction and support:

1. The Middle River/Snake River Watershed District will take the lead role in this project by identifying the location of the project work sites. They will also be providing a minimum of \$10,000 in cash for the project.
2. Marshall County will provide office space, phone(s), and transportation.
3. The Marshall County Soil & Water Conservation District will provide office supplies, technical assistance for the tree planting phase, secure funding for cost of trees to be planted, and public relations with the media and landowners.
4. The Natural Resources Conservation Service will provide program administration, office supplies, equipment (safety/computers), and coordinate training/education.

B. DESIGN

Concept

A team consisting of eight Environmental Corps Members supervised by one Rural Development Corps Member headquartered in Warren, Minnesota (county seat for Marshall County). This team will get their direction from the Project Board.

Service Activities - (typical day)

Meet at the office at 8 a.m.. Go to a selected site

utilizing proper equipment to remove dead trees from the river channel. Most of the debris removal will be done during the winter months (November-March). Members will be using chain and hand saws to cut trees and then manually hauling/dragging this debris to adjacent areas. Mechanized equipment may also be utilized. During the summer months (April-October) members will do some debris removal, along with creating the "Cabins for Critters" (arranging and stacking debris in different types of piles) wildlife habitat. The tree planting will be done in may or October.

Members will be bringing bag lunches and will receive morning and afternoon breaks. They will return back to their home site around 5 p.m. A member from the Project Board will stop by at certain intervals to see if the members require anything.

Participant Training and Support

The Natural Resources Conservation Service will take the lead role to identify and schedule any training (safety, first aid, CPR, defensive driving, AIDS, cultural awareness) that members will receive. The Project Board will provide input on prioritizing timing of training, along with member input.

We plan to utilize local organizations, agencies, and individuals to conduct this training whenever possible. We also plan to hold weekly meetings with members of the team, supervisors, and representatives of the Project Board.

Participant Placement and Supervision

Members will be placed on one team. They will all be working together in the same area. A Rural Development Member will be the work-site supervisor.

Evaluation/Quality

The Project Board and team members will jointly evaluate and monitor work programs for both quantity and quality. They will work together to set monthly goals and standards.

Civic Activities

All towns/communities are located along the 3 major river systems in Marshall County. The monthly community service activity will include doing a project (related to environment) so each town will benefit from a specific group activity by the member sometime during the year.

Recruitment

We will contact schools, colleges, technical schools, and universities in our region for applicants. A cover letter, along with a fact sheet and the application form will be sent to the above contacts. Follow-ups will be made by phone or personal visits. We will also use the media (radio and newspapers) for news releases and ads.

Applicants obtained from the National 1-800 AmeriCorps Hotline will also be considered.

Every effort will be made to have a diverse group of AmeriCorps members for this project; including both gender and ethnic background.

0652, DOC

MINNESOTA

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES
Objective 1

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
Agassiz Recreation Trail (2 Members - RDT)

SITE: Twin Valley, Minnesota

SITE SUPERVISOR:

PHONE: ()

COUNTY:

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS: Continue the promotion of the Agassiz Recreation Trail (ART)

1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?

Designing & securing funding for rest areas along the Agassiz Recreational Trail. The rest areas will include trash receptacles, picnic areas, and possibly restrooms.

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?

To increase usage of the Agassiz Recreational Trail.

3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?

Will be reviewed by Agassiz Recreational Trails Joint Powers Board/NRCS information specialist.

4. By what standard will you gauge success?

By the completion of the rest areas located along the trail.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?

2,000 in a four county area.

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES
Objective 3

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
Agassiz Recreation Trail (2 Members - RDT)

SITE: Twin Valley, Minnesota

SITE SUPERVISOR:

PHONE: ()

COUNTY:

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS: Coordinate efforts to expand ART east & west.

-
- 1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?**
Helping to develop the East Agassiz Conservation Park. The park will be used for outdoor classes and serve as a demonstration area to promote soil and water conservation.
 - 2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?**
Increased awareness of wildlife on the Agassiz Recreational Trail. Also to make students and citizens aware of the need for resource conservation.
 - 3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?**
Will be reviewed by SWCD/NRCS informaton specialist.
 - 4. By what standard will you gauge success?**
Success will be measured by the completion of the East Agassiz Conservation Park and by the participation of area students and citizens in the outdoor classroom.
 - 5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?**
2,000 people in the 4 county area.

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES
Objective 5

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
Conservation Outreach (3 Members - RDT)

SITE: Twin Valley, Minnesota

SITE SUPERVISOR:

PHONE: ()

COUNTY:

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS: Promote the use of living snow fences along local & state highways.

-
1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?
 2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?
 3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?
 4. By what standard will you gauge success?
 5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES
Objective 15

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
Clearwater Feedlot (Member - RDT)

SITE: Thief River Falls, Minnesota

SITE SUPERVISOR:

PHONE: ()

COUNTY:

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS: Provide informational & educational materials.

1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?

Create materials to be sent to livestock producers that were found to be potential polluters. The materials will explain the benefits of installing waste management systems.

2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?

All of the original 26 producers that are found to be potential producers will upgrade their animal waste systems.

3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?

Will be measured by the percentage of the 26 feedlots that are inspected, surveyed, evaluated, and upgraded as a result of this project.

4. By what standard will you gauge success?

100% compliance of the 26 producers that are found to be potential polluters. 80% will be gauged successful.

5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?

There will be a direct benefit to 26 high priority livestock producers. Anyone utilizing these water resources will reap the benefit of improved water quality. Dissemination of educational materials will not be limited to the original 26 livestock producers.

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES
Objective 22

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
Redwood River WQSIP (3 Members - RDT)

SITE: Marshall, Minnesota

SITE SUPERVISOR:

PHONE: ()

COUNTY:

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS: To develop an inventory checklist that will be used with rural landowners to list environmental concerns and solutions that will improve the watershed.

-
- 1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?**
Develop an inventory/checklist with assistance from USDA-NRCS, local SWCD's, BWSR, and Redwood River Clean Water Partnership that will focus on environmental concerns within the watershed.
 - 2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?**
That landowners will utilize the checklist to make an informed decision on corectie measures if needed.
 - 3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?**
Successful completion of an environmental inventory/checklist that meets with the approval of cooperating agencies.
 - 4. By what standard will you gauge success?**
Development of inventory/checklist will achieve 100% of component of objective.
 - 5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?**
100% of the participants contacted.

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES
Objective 25

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
Minnesota River Basin (1 RDT/5 PL&E)

SITE: St. Peter, Minnesota

SITE SUPERVISOR:

PHONE: ()

COUNTY:

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS: Remove 15 miles of fallen trees from the Blue Earth River and its tributaries, to prevent flood damage to private land and public facilities/roads. This removal will improve the quality of the water entering the Minnesota River.

-
1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?
 2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?
 3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?
 4. By what standard will you gauge success?
 5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVES
Objective 26

GRANTEE: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
Minnesota River Basin (1 RDT/5 PL&E)

SITE: : St. Peter, Minnesota

SITE SUPERVISOR:

PHONE: ()

COUNTY:

COMPONENTS OF OBJECTIVE STATEMENTS: Remove 15 miles of litter (old tires, debris, etc.) from the Blue Earth River and its tributaries, to improve the quality and esthetics of the river and of the water entering the Minnesota River.

-
1. What work will be done? What service activities will your participants engage in?
 2. What is the hoped for result of the work/activities described above?
 3. How will you measure the quality of your product or impact of your service?
 4. By what standard will you gauge success?
 5. How many individuals will receive the benefit of the work your participants perform?

